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Presidential Address

To the 148th International Convention of the Theosophical Society (TS)
(In-person & on Zoom from 31 December 2023 to 4 January 2024)

I AM happy to warmly welcome all the delegates here at Adyar and those online around the world to open this 148th International Convention with us. I wish you a fruitful and inspiring time during the Convention programs and related events on our campus. Let us now turn to those Great Ones whose compassionate care and blessings our Society has enjoyed for all these years. Please rise:

**May those who are the embodiments of Love Immortal
bless with their help and guidance this Society,
founded to be a channel for their work.
May They inspire it with their Wisdom, strengthen it
with their Power, and energize it with their activity.**

It is a pleasure to open this 148th Annual Convention of the TS.

For a number of years we have been required to give full attention to renovating and upgrading our Adyar home. It has been a necessary and all-absorbing effort that has demanded a dedicated group focus. Over time we have developed a team of people who have the concentration and commitment that has moved us forward. This year we have continued the process. The most obvious renovation project has been the completion of the New Quadrangle. Those of you who have stayed there in the past will appreciate the extensive upgrade — not only of the units themselves, but the installation of walkways and garden spaces. It has become our shared habit of thought that in all of our projects beauty is a requirement. Annie Besant described Adyar as the “Masters’ Home”. The outer expression of beauty and

power must align with its inner presence.

We have also completed a number of infrastructure upgrades that will be unseen by most. Our electrical supply, sanitation, and water systems have been redone in various locations on campus. New classrooms for the Olcott Memorial School, the Adyar Theosophical Academy, and the Social Welfare Centre were constructed. Secured spaces for archival materials; restoration of important artwork in our Museum; upgrades to our dining facilities, Library Conference Room; gardens; Security Office; Internet access; Administration Building; and other improvements far too numerous to list have also been part of this year’s activity.

The work of maintaining and improving our physical campus will never end. However, we have reached a point where we can now apply a greater focus

to the purpose for which this place exists. The hardest work — the development of a shared team ethos and functional systems to support that shared vision — at this point, is in place. That and the establishment of relative financial security for the TS brings new vistas into view. The TS Adyar headquarters is the global center for the Theosophical Movement. We are more than buildings and land.

In HPB's book *The Key to Theosophy* she describes the purpose of the TS as "to make it known that such a thing as Theosophy exists". Taking this as our direction, the question has been "How?" How do we make the existence of Theosophy known? Historically, this has been attempted along two lines: 1. books and magazines; 2. talks — the written and the spoken word. While valuable, these two avenues do not exhaust the possibilities. At Adyar we are working to provide a vital, usable center for a higher work. Nothing less than the regeneration of the human mind can be an acceptable direction for us. Our answer to the question "How?" has become: By every means available. Toward that end here at Adyar we utilize every one of our activities to demonstrate a fundamental Unity we all share.

Two schools (the Olcott Memorial School, a free school which has been operating continuously for 130 years and the Adyar Theosophical Academy, begun in 2019), the Social Welfare Centre for pre-schoolers, the Vocational Training Centre, our extensive animal rescue and care facility at the Besant

Memorial Animal Dispensary, which has become the premier institution of its type in South India are all ongoing projects. During this year we have added two new programs of outreach to the broader community: Wisdom for Living, which features highly accomplished presenters across the spectrum of human activity (Science, Medicine, Spirituality, Business, Arts, and so on) sharing the ways in which they apply spiritual principles in their work/life; and Libraries as Communities, which draws people monthly to the Library to hear from top people in fields directly related to the books in our collection, and to engage in the study and discussion of a curated book list. Both programs are in person and have experienced excellent participation. The School of the Wisdom (SOW) under the directorship of Erica Georgiades has become a global activity. In addition to the inperson sessions taking place on our campus, online sessions have been successfully initiated. Additionally our involvement in art, music, children's programs, and eco-responsibility have been prominent this year.

All of this is a "people-dependent" process. Anyone can pronounce the word "Theosophy" or quote the words of illumined past members, but Theosophy only comes to life through that person who, by personal effort, has realized something of its meaning. Though each of us is imperfect in our wisdom and in our personalities, working together we continue to accomplish remarkable things. The TS exists for the world, not for our-

selves. We are committed to magnifying the Experiment that is the TS. We are

aware that everything we attempt will not bear fruit, but some of it will — richly.

* * *

The Work around the World

In the **Asia-Pacific** region, the TS in **East and South-East Asia**, with 719 members, operates in four countries: Singapore, Malaysia, Japan, and Myanmar. Though there is no lodge in China, remarkable growth was seen through the efforts of the Chinese Project Team of the **Singapore Lodge**, which developed a Chinese website and conducted online lectures and talks. Another notable event in Singapore was the opening of new premises in August. A Theosophy course was held in Chinese, and a book club accessed translated literature, recorded lectures, and subtitled videos. Two blog groups engage members and non-member sympathizers. **Malaysia** hosted the 15th Indo-Pacific Conference on-line in November, focusing The Work around the World on “Finding Joy Amidst Uncertainty”. In **Japan**, online study sessions were organized bimonthly, and several books were translated and published in Japanese.

With the end of the restrictions of the global pandemic, most of the activities of the TS in **Australia** have returned to normal. After almost three years, January saw the resumption of the National Convention as an in-person gathering in Adelaide, South Australia. There was a healthy attendance, perhaps because of the long hiatus, with a host of excellent speakers and over 75 delegates making

it a memorable event. In April and May, International Lecturer, Juliana Cesano, led the annual Australian School of Theosophy at Springbrook, Queensland. Later, Juliana continued with a tour of the Section, giving talks and workshops in Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth, Hobart, and Melbourne. In October, a three-day event was held at the Springbrook Education and Retreat Centre entitled “Ancient Wisdoms in a Modern World: A Contemporary Exploration of the Stories and Symbols That Bring Meaning to Our Lives”.

The TS in **India** had another successive annual increase of membership to 12,230. The trend towards online lectures set during Covid-19 had blossomed. Another highlight was a plan to contribute to the participation of 100 members of the Section in the 12th World TS Congress to be held in Vancouver in 2025. A three-day 131st National Convention was held in October at the Radha Burnier Amphitheatre in Varanasi. The 175th Birth Anniversary of Dr Annie Besant was celebrated in October with floral tributes paid by the students and staff of the educational institutions, the workers, and the members. The 147th Foundation Day was celebrated online as also Adyar Day. White Lotus Day was observed in the Annie Besant Hall in Varanasi. The 99th Easter Conference was conducted in

April at Adyar, based on the book *The World Around Us*, a compilation of Radha Burnier's "On the Watch-Tower" articles during 1980–2007. Five Federations conducted study camps at Bhowali from April to June. Several online talks were given by the President and the national lecturers. *The Indian Theosophist* was published monthly in English and Hindi. The website, <theosophy-india.org>, hosts several magazines from the different Federations. TOS activities had active participation of members at all levels during the year.

The year's activities in the **New Zealand** Section were back to pre-Covid levels. The National Convention was held in January in Whanganui, with the theme, "Our Journey — From Me, to We, to the Oneness of All", with Nancy Secrest as the guest speaker. "The School of Theosophy" was held in April with Ravi Ravindra, who spoke on the "Journey of Spiritual Search". Immersion Weekend was held in early August with the theme: "Theosophy, a Path of Discovery". The Online Theosophical Sunday's program had four sessions with Martin Leiderman on "Exploring The Secret Doctrine". Branch seminars continued to be conducted by John Vorstermans and Renée Sell. A new website was released in August with a new look and feel, added functions, improvements to the Events page, online shopping, and membership database. *TheoSophia* continued to be popular in New Zealand and worldwide.

The **Philippine** Section transitioned to in-person interactions after the pandemic. It marked its 90th anniversary in 2023

and conducted the National Convention online in November, with the theme "The Quest for Truth: The Challenge of Our Times", where I delivered the keynote address. Activities included a recollection/retreat, reports, meditation sessions, panel discussion, workshop, plenary session, and action plans. Guided meditations with lectures and Q & A sessions were held each month, while midweek public meditation sessions happened weekly. Publications like *The Theosophical Digest*, *The Philippine Theosophist* newsletter, and *Peace Ideas* remained consistent. The TOS engaged in feeding programs, typhoon disaster relief, and outreach activities. Correspondence courses continued. An online presence is maintained through Facebook, YouTube, and its website, <theosophy.ph/index.html>.

In the **European** region, the TS in **Austria** has 78 members in three Lodges. A new board was installed for the branch in Graz. Two Lodges offered weekly lectures throughout the study year. Study subjects were based on classical theosophical teachings and related subjects. The third Lodge will be reorganized shortly. In July members attended the summer school organized by Karin Walzl in Linz and the summer school of the German Section. Members received the *Adyar* periodical Magazine from the German Section, published three times a year.

In **Belgium**, seven Lodges continued regular activity, some of them publishing newsletters and all of them organizing study meetings and monthly lectures on theosophical topics. All TS Adyar com-

memorations were held at the Brussels headquarters: White Lotus Day, Founders' Day, Adyar Day, and Annie Besant Day. Healing and peace meditations which have a loyal following were conducted in cooperation with Belgian TOS. The Brussels headquarters also welcomed EFTS Executive and Council meetings in early September.

The TS in **England and Wales** continued to promote the ancient wisdom teachings through the activities of Headquarters and Lodges and Centres. Headquarters presented 24 online Sunday evening lectures. Besides local speakers they had international speakers from Belgium, Italy, Scotland, and USA. The 18 Lodges and three Centres met regularly for both personal study and public talks. They continued the Foundation and Higher online Diploma Courses in Theosophy. The Summer School was held again after four years, in August, with Pablo and Michele Sender as chief speakers on "The Spiritual Path in Challenging Times". A new group, "Young Adult Theosophists of England and Wales", was formed by enthusiastic younger members, affiliated to The World Federation of Young Theosophists. The quarterly magazine *Esoterica* continued to be distributed to members and interested parties around the world. The website had a substantial increase of visits and visitors. Facebook and YouTube followers have increased. Membership growth was helped by the Associate Scheme enabling people to study Theosophy for two years before committing to becoming members.

There are seventeen Lodges in **Finland**, organizing public talks regularly in different cities of Finland as well as in Estonia. Some of them organize weekly or monthly studies of theosophical books. Eight Lodges have a theosophical library. Two celebrated their 90th anniversary in September. The annual general meeting was held in Helsinki in May with 37 members present. During the summer months there were two talks a month, some available online. Foundation Day, Adyar Day, and White Lotus Day were celebrated during the talks. The TOS organized a spring festival in April and a Christmas event to raise funds. It supports Olcott Memorial School, Social Welfare Centre, and the Boy's Hostel in Adyar. *Teosofi* magazine appears four times a year. *Letters from the Masters of the Wisdom, Second Series*, by C. Jinarājadāsa was published in Finnish. An audiobook on Mabel Collins's *Light on the Path (Valoa tielle)* is available on YouTube and Soundcloud. The Facebook page has 1,600 followers.

At the TS **France**, bimonthly hybrid courses, online meditation sessions, and public lectures attracted a core of interested participants. Members participated in a silent retreat on the theme "Acquainting the Mind with Meditation" at the end of April. Founders' Day, Adyar Day, and White Lotus Day were celebrated. An online study group on the Mahatma Letters with the Belgian Section and Spanish participants continued. A study group on fundamental theosophical teachings for new members also went on. The National Convention on "The Laws

of the Higher Life” took place in the end of June with Sabine Van Osta as guest speaker. The Section’s online presence grew, including Facebook, YouTube, and weekly e-newsletters. The publishing house, Editions Adyar, began to sell TPH Adyar books via website. The TS library was open to the public. The magazine *Le Lotus Bleu* is published ten times a year both in electronic and hard copy form.

The three annual meetings of the TS in **Germany**, with 135 members, were held, as always, in the South in the autumn, in the North in the spring, and the summer school in the middle of Germany. The guest of honour was Esther Pockrandt, who joined online, for two lectures on *Taming the Dragon Within*. A course on *The Secret Doctrine* was continued. Isolde Sültemeyer talked about Rukmini Devi Arundale’s life and her great services to the TS, India, and wildlife. Monthly online meetings bring members and guests from all over Germany together listening to the best speakers nationwide. Meanwhile, three healing groups met regularly and some met to meditate for peace worldwide. The thrice-yearly *Adyar* magazine published a special edition in December with translated talks from the International Convention 2021. Authors and lecturers in German keep growing.

Since June the TS in **Greece** was able to organize hybrid meetings. A study group on *The Secret Doctrine* also held online meetings. Joint Lodge meetings and individual meetings were organized. The membership increased, with new members attending the lectures and study group

more frequently. The General Assembly meeting was held in April with good attendance. Foundation Day, White Lotus Day, and Adyar Day were celebrated. The magazine, *Ilisos*, was published every three months with 200 subscribers.

TS in **Hungary** held its two usual General Assembly meetings, one in spring, the other in the autumn. The one operating Lodge has 22 members and 11 are members at large. Monthly meetings were held. A series of bi-weekly workshops took place with “Cosmogenesis” of *The Secret Doctrine* as the theme. MATESZ, the Hungarian TOS, organized charity collections and donated to persons in need. The virtual healing group had weekly gatherings/group meditations. Eleven public lectures were given. White Lotus Day commemorated Madame Blavatsky. Numerous lectures are available in the YouTube video channel, “The Hidden Side of Our World”, with 2,650 members. “Theosophy in Hungary” is a podcast available on YouTube. *Occult Chemistry* by C. W. Leadbeater and Annie Besant, and *The Conquest of Illusion* by J. J. van der Leeuw were translated and published. Contact was established with TS in Switzerland, Slovakia, and USA.

Regular touch was kept with all the TS members in **Ireland** via study notes, messages, and uplifting quotations. They also had the opportunity to join TS programmes and receive Theosophical magazines online. Many new members joined thanks to the website. In-person programmes started last autumn for the Belfast and Dublin Lodges, with talks,

meditations, and study. The All-Ireland Convention was held in May with Gerard Brennan from Australia as the guest speaker on “Along the Path and towards the Mountains”. Online contact with other Sections and their magazines was encouraged since Covid time. The Organizing Secretary delivered a talk to the Russian TS on “Thought Power and its Higher Potential”, with simultaneous translation into Russian.

In the TS in **Italy**, the year saw positive results. The *Rivista Italiana di Teosofia* (Italian Magazine of Theosophy) was published bimonthly. A study on meditation led by Ms Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu was organized at Milan in October. Two Intergroup Seminars were held, one at Trieste in October with the theme, “This unknown Life: Theosophy and Knowledge of the Occult”, and the other at Turin in January on “Art and Theosophy”. The Theosophical Seminar in Ascona took place in March on the “Relationship between Art and Theosophy and the Role of the TS”. The Section organized its 109th National Congress in Cervignano del Friuli in June with the theme “Sublime Harmony, Beauty of Life”. An online 10-lesson “Introductory Course to the Stanzas of Dzyan, Part I, Cosmogogenesis” was held. The Italian Young Theosophists translated and took care of the audio magazine. The monthly newsletter has over 3,600 active users.

The TS in **The Netherlands**, with 367 members, ten Lodges, and seven centres, collaborates closely with ITC (Inter-

national Theosophical Centre) in Naarden, known as the “European Home” of the TS. The activities at the ITC included two autumn 2022 events themed “Exploring the Latent Powers in Humankind”, a Spring 2023 seminar on “What is Consciousness?”, and a Summer 2023 seminar led by Kurt Leland on “Cooperative work with invisible worlds”. The second gathering of the World Federation of Young Theosophists was hosted at the ITC in June, featuring a special seminar by Kurt Leland titled “The Path of Cooperation and the Spiritual Life”. The quarterly journal, *Theosofia*, is available at <www.theosofie.nl>. An online bimonthly newsletter is distributed to over 1,000 subscribers. The library houses 25,000 books. The bookshop maintains a stock of theosophical and related books, sold online.

The Strommen Group of the TS in **Norway** continued its collaboration with the Dharma group, giving bimonthly lectures based on a course programme from the TS in New Zealand website's “Theosophical World Resource Centre” <<https://www.ts-adyar.org/content/resource-centre>>, divided into 12 lectures. From the pandemic time, the meetings had to become online, and now they are transitioning to physical meetings.

The TS in **Portugal** had at least three public sessions monthly. Along with the celebration of the traditional commemorative days integrated in the history of the TS, sessions were held at least every fortnight, all well attended. The website continued to be a good reference to those

who showed interest in the Section's history and activities. A regular newsletter was published. Social networks were used to reach a larger public. Lodges and Study Groups worked regularly.

The online lecture centre of the TS in **Russia** continued its work. Fifty-one meetings were conducted, of which nine included international speakers. Two online projects, "Reading H. P. Blavatsky's articles together", is actively being developed. Another one, "Introduction to the Philosophy of Religions" was launched. The online course "Introduction to Theosophy" was launched in November. The 12th All-Russian Theosophical Conference was held in Kemerovo in April, with the same theme as that of the International Convention held in Adyar. Weekly meetings on *The Secret Doctrine* continued. Two Saturdays a month there is a course on "Symbolism in Astrology". The monthly meditation course "Theosophy and Life" continued. Along with TS India, the "School of Wisdom 2023" was held in July on self-knowledge. The memorial days of Blavatsky, 8 May and 12 August, are traditionally celebrated in all Russian Lodges. With the participation of international Theosophists from Brazil, Turkey, and Belarus, the Theosophical Forum was held in Smolensk in July. The 12th Annual Theosophical Seminar on *The Secret Doctrine* was held in August in the village of Makarievka, and in November the National Congress of the Theosophical Society in Russia on "The Nature of Thinking: Conscious Thinking" was held. The official pages are maintained in social

networks: Facebook, V Kontakte (Russian analogue of FB), and Telegram. This year new accounts were created on Yandex.Zen and RuTube. Videos are posted on <youtube.com/Theosophy>. Over 200 new videos were posted during the year.

The TS in **Scotland** held a regular, very popular theosophical study group on Saturdays. The Organizing Secretary gave talks/study sessions on *The Voice of the Silence* at every Lodge. Malcolm Macqueen, gave a talk entitled "Theosophy and Hellenistic Astrology" at the AGM in June.

The TS in **Slovenia** has five lodges and two study centres with 75 members. The work takes place at Theosophical meetings in the Lodges and also online meetings once a week. This mode is preferred, as members from all the Lodges can attend the meetings. The Memorial Days were organized and celebrated — the birthday of Annie Besant online and the others in physical gatherings. Their magazine, *Theosophical Thought*, is in digital format. The website is <teozofskodrustvo.si>.

The **Spanish Section** had face-to-face activities in addition to online meetings. Different levels of knowledge were addressed, from basic courses to the study of in-depth content for the more experienced. The annual events organized were the annual Silent Retreat, conducted by Tr  n-Thi-Kim-Di  u at the end of October; the Iberian Days during the Easter season; the Summer School at the end of August; and the three significant dates for theosophists: Foundation Day, Adyar Day, and White Lotus Day.

The membership in the **Swedish**

section increased slightly and many of them are interested in the different study groups. A wide number of public lectures have been held, as well as a mini school on “Knowledge and Reality” during the autumn. The summer school was held successfully on the theme of “The Brain and Extended Consciousness”.

The **Swiss** TS is working to change from a Presidential Agency to a Section. They published articles on the Ticino online blog/magazine, <teosofia.ch>, and <facebook.com/groups/teosofii> and recently joined Twitter <twitter.com/teosofia_ch>. The Italian Theosophical magazine was distributed free at the Locarno bookshop. In Ascona, the European Theosophical Seminar on “Art and Theosophy” was organized in collaboration with the European Federation and the Italian Theosophical Society. The Swiss Theosophical Centre in Ascona hosts an active library. The Theosophical Course in Geneva explores official Theosophical texts monthly and holds online weekly meetings in French. The Lugano group meets weekly since April. A new study center was established in Zurich in May. The Section supported the Young Theosophist’s Gathering in Naarden and the project for the restoration of the Adyar painting collection.

With a membership of 105, the work of the TS in **Ukraine** continued despite the ongoing war conditions. Eight departments and a Study Center functioned with all Branches holding meetings studying theosophical literature. Key events included the 18th Convention on “Living

Now: Challenges of Internal Life”, held online in November. White Lotus Day was observed. Also, “Herald of Light Day” commemorated the 192nd birth anniversary of Blavatsky in August. The online project, “Theosophy for the Curious”, was offered on Saturdays from October to March, acquainting participants with Theosophy. The website, <theosophy.in.ua>, remained active, as also <facebook.com/theosophy.in.ua>. The School of the Wisdom, titled “The Key to the Inside”, was conducted online in August-September. The Science Group had 12 participants with regular meetings, seminars, and public lectures. Two bilingual magazines — “Theosophy and Science” and “Svitoch” — and monthly newsletters were regularly published. Aid was given to those affected by the war. The Order of Healing conducted weekly healing rituals designed for souls lost in the war. An online psychological help group was established. Thursday meditations were held for unity, support, and protection of the country.

In the **Americas**, the TS in **Argentina**, with a membership of 279, started twelve two-year online courses on Theosophy for members-at-large in places without TS Lodges. Seven books were printed in Spanish: *The Secret Doctrine*, Vol. I, “Cosmogogenesis” by HPB; *Sri Ram, a Life of Altruism and Wisdom* by P. Oliveira; *Notes on the Bhagavad Gita* by S. Row; *Approaching the Secret Doctrine* by P. Sender; *The Yogic Ascent to Spiritual Heights* by G. Hodson; *Reflections on the Eternal Wisdom* by J. Mills; and *Raja*

Yoga by W. Slater. The Section's YouTube channel was expanded with 441 videos and over 4,000 subscribers. At the Theosophical Centre in San Rafael, Mendoza, in October, a National Conference was held with the theme, "Practical Theosophy: An Invitation to Live Altruistically, Transforming Knowledge into Wisdom". In February, the 56th Summer School was held on "The Inner Life: Self-knowledge and Contemplation in the Three Paths", by Juliana Cesano, with an attendance of 77 people.

Bolivia, with a membership of 68, six branches, and three centres carried on study, research, meditation, and dissemination. Some members delivered national and international lectures on various topics. Workshops and introductory courses to Theosophy were done in the cities of La Paz, Cochabamba, and Tarija, to spread theosophical knowledge and increase membership. Public meetings were held every month, with the participation of all branches and study groups. The special theosophical dates such as Foundation Day, Adyar Day, and White Lotus Day, were celebrated. The *Bolivian Theosophical Magazine* was published quarterly from December.

The TS in **Brazil** has 618 members, 33 Lodges and 25 Study Groups. The 42nd Summer School on "Ancient Wisdom and Peacebuilding" was hosted in January. The 29th International Theosophical School and winter seminar was held on "*Light on the Path* and the Spiritual Journey — Esoteric Instructions and Existential Challenges" in July. The hybrid

format enabled people from other places to take part, with access to renowned international speakers, and live translation to Portuguese. The Section held weekly online Theosophical Studies Groups open to the public. The headquarters in Brasilia were open for services including the secretariat, bookshop, and Hatha Yoga sessions daily. From December, in-person weekly lectures resumed at the Headquarters, which were recorded and made available on TV SUPREN's YouTube channel. TOS marked 115 years of work and published an International Handbook. A Theosophical school at the Raja Centre is being planned. The TPH had a successful year with their magazine, *Sophia*, reaching its 100th ed. in 20 years.

The TS in **Canada**, with a membership of 113, had meetings every other Sunday with local and international speakers. The website, the Facebook page, and the YouTube channel are continuously updated. A more structured and up-to-date advertising plan was implemented to promote Theosophy. Some members were interviewed on a research project on "Spirituality in the Modern World". The aim of developing links with non-affiliated Lodges in Canada continued by organizing meetings with them. They expect to have a sixth Lodge soon. Some of the books studied were: *A Study In Consciousness*, *The Secret Doctrine*, the *Bhagavad-Gita*, and so on.

The TS in **Chile** had public events that attracted new members, including conferences in August and October, titled "The Greatest Wisdom Is to Know Yourself" and "Forgetting Yourself to Serve"

respectively. Branches like Arundhati operated continuously, with online sessions for members. The Amor Branch adjusted its study schedule for increased participation. Seven introductory Theosophy courses were offered at the national Headquarters, at the end of which attendees could choose to join the TS. Online study groups continued and the library reopened in May.

The building of the TS in **Colombia** was reopened with Wi-Fi system, communication equipment, monitors, and so on, enabling study activities, both online and physically at the headquarters, by the two Lodges in Bogotá. Medellín Lodge also met weekly and Lodge Sol del Ecuador was annexed to the Presidential Agency. There has been an effort to promote online study groups in other Colombian cities and Ecuador, and to join the IATF (Inter-American Theosophical Federation), as well as the creation of the Node of Theosophical Diffusion; at National and IATF level. The “Brahma Vidya School” was inactive. An introductory course to Theosophy for neophytes will be started. The group, “Encounters with Krishnamurti” continued. The magazine, *Selección Teosófica* (*Theosophical Digest*) is published online four times per year.

TS in **Costa Rica** continued having 4 active Lodges with 60 members. The challenge, now that members have gotten used to virtual meetings, was to encourage them to go back to in-person meetings, and hybrid sessions helped. International TS festive days like Annie Besant’s Birthday, Founders’ Day, Adyar Day,

and White Lotus Day were observed. A three-month *Introductory Course to Theosophy* was conducted successfully in hybrid mode with active participation. In April a seminar, *The Secret Doctrine — Path of Self-Transformation*, was conducted by Martin Leiderman, with about 30 people attending. Video forums and study groups also took place. Four issues were published of their magazine, *Sila — Revista costarricense de Teosofía* (*Sila — Costa Rican Theosophical Magazine*).

The quarterly online *Revista Teosófica Cubana* (*Cuban Theosophical Magazine*) was published by the TS in **Cuba** without interruption. The Annual Convention was held in January on “Universal Brotherhood”. Official celebrations and commemorations of the TS were done as usual. The traditional Summer School was held in July on “The Three Paths of Yoga”. During January–October the studies continued, but were suspended during August (summer holidays). Instead, a public conference was held every Saturday about different theosophical teachings. In January and September a Basic Study Course on Theosophy was held as usual at the Havana headquarters.

With forty-five members the TS in the **Dominican Republic** gave intermediate and advanced courses on Theosophy online twice a week, and the introductory course in person. Weekly meetings in person were resumed in August. The premises have undergone a facelift and inaugurated in December. It will house the Lodges, study groups, and Presidential Agency office. Commemorations of theo-

sophical dates were done along with the Inter-American Theosophical Federation. In October the Fall seminar on “Intuition, our Connection with the Soul” was held in person, facilitated by Drs Isaac Jauli and Enrique Reig and around 30 people took part. The OTS meets every week to perform the Healing Ritual.

The TS in **Mexico**, which has twelve Lodges and four Study Centers, held some important events during the period. The School of Theosophy was held in Atlixco, Puebla, in November 2022 by Pablo Sender with the following topics: “Service as a Theosophical Path”, “The Theosophical Path of Meditation”, and “The Evolution of Higher Consciousness”. All lectures were held in person and transmitted live on Zoom, Facebook, and YouTube, and recorded on the website.

The Mexican Section was invited by the Mexican Society for the Study of Religions, which is part of the National Institute of Anthropology and History of the Government of Mexico, to participate in the “Colloquium on Spiritualism, Theosophy, and Spirituality”. Dissemination work was done via the web page, <sociedadteosofica.mx>; two Facebook pages, <facebook.com/teosofiamx> and <facebook.com/teosofia.blavasky>; three YouTube channels, Teosofía en México, Sección Mexicana de la Sociedad Teosófica, and Sociedad Teosófica en México; and the magazines *Teotlsofia*, *Dharma*, *Duda*, and the *Magazine of the IATF*.

The TS in **Perú** has 34 members. The HPB Lodge conducts two online meetings

and two in-person gatherings monthly since March. They celebrated Foundation Day, Adyar Day, and White Lotus Day online, on their respective dates.

From October to December the TS in **Puerto Rico** concentrated on encouraging attendance in in-person meetings. In January, the Inter-American Theosophical Federation (IATF) offered a week’s seminar at the TS Headquarters in India. In February, the IATF president visited the headquarters in Puerto Rico and public lectures were delivered by Dr Enrique Reig. White Lotus Day was a solemn celebration. Fred Fernández, a senior member, delivered a workshop on “The Elevation of Consciousness”. A public lecture is given every Sunday. In July/August 2023, Mrs Idarmis Rodríguez, from the Krotona Institute of Theosophy in Ojai, California, visited San Juan for 22 days and attended several TS Headquarters’ study groups, sharing appreciable insights.

The TS in **USA** had a slight increase in the membership to 3,445. The education department organized, in conjunction with the program committee, two successful weekend programs for the in-depth study of Theosophy: “Approaching the Secret Doctrine” with Pablo Sender, and “The Pervasive Presence: Exploring H. P. Blavatsky’s Teaching on the Seven Principles” with Eugene Jennings. The Prison Program has seen a rise in the number of referrals and currently has 51 prisoners enrolled in the correspondence course, supported by 18 volunteer mentors across the country with a total of 115 prisoners as members of the TSA.

Our annual Mind-Body-Spirit Festival, “Theosofest”, was held in September and attracted approximately 3,000 visitors and 130 vendors. The Quest Book Shop continued to expand product lines, including offerings in world religions, mysticism, and children’s items.

In **Venezuela** the Lodges meet every Sunday. The study books include the *Bhagavadgītā*, *Quantum Physics*, and *Emotions* by Ana Belén López Solano, and *At the Feet of the Master*, among others. In all the Lodge meetings a half an hour of meditation for peace is held, as per TOS. Special theosophical dates such as Foundation Day and Adyar Day were celebrated.

In the **African** region, the **East & Central African** Section, with 107 members, comprises Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, and Zambia. The highlight of the year was the visit of Isis Resende in January/February. Her 20-day lecture tour of Lodges in Kenya, Uganda, and Zambia attracted a lot of new people, resulting in increased attendance. Some members found the online talks organized by various Sections of the TS around the world an alternative to the weekly Lodge meetings. But most members are unable to join due to lack of reliable but expensive Wi-Fi connectivity.

In the Adyar **Headquarters**, the **School of the Wisdom** conducted six courses in English, of which five were online: “From Intellectual Understanding to Life Practice: Foundations of the Buddha’s Teaching in the Light of Theosophy” by Trān-Thi-Kim-Diêu; “The Fundamentals of Advaita Vedanta Tattva-bodha —

Cycle II” by Dr Radha Raghunathan; “Sanskrit: The Divine Language” by Dr Sadananda Das; “Expanding Our Understanding and Compassion” by Dr Barbara Herbert; and “Exploring Meditation, the Real Occult Power of a Human Being” by Trān-Thi-Kim-Diêu. The course held in Adyar was, “The Necessary Journey of Self-Transformation” by Ravi Ravindra. There were also four online classes in Spanish: “Los Mahatmas y la Sociedad Teosófica: Origen y Propósito” by Isis M. B. Resende; “Pasado, presente y futuro de la humanidad. Su origen y evolución física, intelectual y espiritual (Antropogénesis)” by Esteban R. Langlois; “Simbología y Teosofía” by Maria Carmen César Galante; and “La Meditación, Su Importancia y Valor Espiritual” by Gaspar Torres Martínez. The last one could not be completed due to the passing away of the teacher.

Additionally, during the last International Convention, the School organized an Art Exhibition by Shiva Ram, a mini course focusing on “Theosophy & Ecology: Practical Wisdom for Living in the Contemporary World” with Linda Oliveira, Pradeep Gohil, and Radha Ragunathan, and the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Brahmavidya Ashram. Furthermore, at the time of the programme in the campus a few additional activities were included such as “Exploration Day — A Contemplative Walk through Nature, Listening to the History of the Adyar Campus” with Shikhar Agnihotri; a chanting workshop with Jaishree Kannan; and a

vegan cooking class with Nidhi Sharma.

With the first full operational year of the **Theosophical Publishing House** (TPH) following Covid-19, the sales of books increased during the year. The reprinting of 46 out-of-stock book titles was undertaken. Also the following 3 new books were published during the year: *Theosophy in the 21st Century* by Carlos Pérez Menéndez, *Annie Besant in India* by Pedro Oliveira, and *Blessed by Mysterious Grace* by Ravi Ravindra.

The **Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary** (BMAD), a charitable outreach program of the TS, has grown to become one of Chennai's largest and busiest animal shelters. During the year it treated over 15,000 outpatients, admitted over 700 sick or critically injured street animals for treatment, discharged 400 animals post treatment, and conducted over 400 major surgeries. It also did 2,500 animal birth control (ABC) surgeries, a key initiative of the shelter, and found permanent homes for over 100 animals. The team was completely engaged in conducting rescues of stranded animals and humans alike, during Cyclone Michaung. Several ABC marathons were conducted this year as an initiative to control the rising street animal population in the city, and provide them with a better quality of life.

The **Theosophical Order of Service** (TOS), under the direction of Ms Nancy Secret, is present in 36 of the 59 countries where the TS is active. It also has several outreach avenues. Their website, <international.theoservice.org>, is being updated, and their Facebook page is

<facebook.com/tosinternational>. This was a year of "thinking outside of the box" as several TOS countries began new programs. Meditations for Peace were begun in Argentina, Belgium, and USA. Brazil created a theatre group that presented several philosophical plays. They also distributed musical instruments to children. India began a dance group for children and started counselling 150 prisoners. Italy started a new project called "mail from the elves", where adherents receive envelopes having small, moving citations from books, to share and embrace awareness, openness of heart, solidarity, love, positivity, brotherhood, and acceptance. In the Philippines, students began a hydro-planting system. Several countries supported relief work in the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria and for assistance to refugees from the Russo-Ukraine war. Help with various women's issues, education, youth involvement, and animal welfare were other activities. Almost all countries have healing groups.

The Director of the **Adyar Theosophical Academy** (ATA), Mrs Sonal Murali, reports that ATA began its fifth academic year in June 2023 with 185 students from Nursery to Grade 6. Three new classrooms with glass up to the ceiling create a beautiful setting of learning in the midst of Nature. New site called Kirby Gardens has been identified for expansion of school up to Grade 12. ATA continues with its immersive and participatory activities providing divergent experiences to its learners, brimming with curiosity, questions, and discoveries,

through outdoor learning experiences, Nature Journaling and other mindfulness activities, meditative assemblies to start the day, field trips as well as celebrations of Indian festivals and events. The Annual Sports Meet took place on 21 Jan 2023 with International President Tim Boyd as Chief Guest. The Republic Day celebration on 26 Jan involved children in a vibrant discussion on the Indian Constitution. Mr Boyd and other TS members enjoyed interacting with activities set up by the students. Various guests from Argentina, Japan, New Zealand, Spain, New Guinea, Colombia, and Finland visited and spoke about their diverse cul-

tures. Grade 6 students visited the Theosophical Society (TS) Adyar Museum, where they were enthralled by the rich legacy of the TS.

Educators enriched themselves through sessions of Waldorf philosophy; an Energy Healing workshop; a Relook at Education based on Aurobindo's Integral Education; How to bring about Creative Thinking based on *Six Thinking Hats* by Edward De Bono; Lesson Planning to integrate a multi-disciplinary approach; a series of Maths workshops; and Understanding J. Krishnamurti's Educational Philosophy.

TIM BOYD

**THE TREASURER'S REPORT
AND
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2023**

TREASURER'S REPORT — AUDITED ACCOUNTS 2022–2023

Respected members of the General Council:

The audited financial statements of the accounts of the Society for the fiscal year ended 31 March 2023 are already in your hands. Please find hereunder the salient points of financial activity of the Society for the fiscal year 2022–2023.

This year additional staff was trained on the reporting of various taxes: GST, TDS, PF, ESI and Professional Tax in order to bring these processes in-house, thus eliminating the need for payments to consultants. We now have two staff who are trained in these processes. Likewise, a backup was trained for processing payroll. Cross training will continue. We will also continue adjusting the last few old general ledger account balances in order to reflect the financial position of the Society more accurately.

It has come to our attention that the Income Tax department defines “Charitable” objects for Section 10(23C) (iv) taxpayers (of which the TS is one), as follows: Relief of the Poor, Yoga, Education, Medical, Preservation of the environment, Preservation of monuments, objects of art and historical documents, and Other (items that do not fall in the above categories). While it is obvious to us that the TS activities fall into the above categories, we wish to make it obvious to the IT as well. Hence, we have begun reporting our activity in this way for IT purposes. For the General Council, we will continue to report using the categories we have traditionally used, while also showing the cost center breakout using the IT categories.

1. INCOME

The details of the income for the year ended 31 March 2023 as compared to the previous two years are as follows:

	Financial Year		
	2022–2023	2021–2022	2020–2021
a) Gross interest received from investments	24,875,100	26,954,168	20,195,952
b) Fees and dues	3,191,179	1,354,657	2,818,559
c) License fees	15,400,092	1,200,000	—
d) Adyar Day donations	223,351	68,652	345,655
e) General donations	2,246,943	49,468,596	492,672
f) Restricted donations	23,567,003	19,955,551	21,932,192
g) CSR receipts	1,300,000	—	—
h) Sales & Subscriptions – TPH & Magazines	3,201,447	1,859,833	808,274
i) Sales & Subscriptions – ALRC, BMAD & Garden	917,063	811,361	768,168

j) Other income	6,416,083	2,465,348	5,450,061
Sub Total – gross income	81,338,261	104,138,166	52,811,533
Less: Interest transferred to earmarked funds	<u>(6,023,751)</u>	<u>(9,383,526)</u>	<u>(8,937,954)</u>
Total Income	<u>75,314,510</u>	<u>94,754,640</u>	<u>43,873,579</u>

The gross income for the year as shown above decreased from that of last year, 2021–2022, by Rs. 22,799,905, this followed an increase in gross income from 2020–2021 of Rs. 51,326,633. The reason for the large increase in 2020–2021 was because a one- time donation was received from the American Section totaling Rs. 48,952,967 that year. (This donation was intended to help with increased expenditures due to the resumption of construction after the lockdowns of the past two years when construction needed to be halted), thus the decrease in General Donations this year of Rs. 47,221,653. However, all other income categories (except income from investments) increased in 2022–2023 by a total of Rs. 26,500,816, limiting the total decrease to only Rs. 22,799,905. The receipt of large donations, such as this one highlighted above, that are received one year with the corresponding costs/expenses occurring the following year has resulted in a kind of yo-yo effect showing a large surplus one year and a large deficit the following year. Given current income projections, this pattern is likely to continue for another year before it evens out.

Income from interest on investments shows a decrease of Rs. 2,079,068 from last year. Subtracting out the gain shown in 2021–2022 of Rs. 6,243,220 on the withdrawal of money market funds, our interest, taken by itself, has actually increased somewhat from that of previous years. This is due to an increase in the funds available to invest and an increase in interest rates, from mostly 5% to mostly 7% per annum.

Fees and dues increased this year by Rs. 1,836,522. This was expected as Government changes to the acceptance and processing of foreign donations to NGOs caused much confusion last year, resulting in fewer Fees & dues being processed by our bank. The confusion was resolved, and Sections were allowed to send in prior as well as current year Fees & dues in 2022–2023.

This year marked the first year we began receiving lease rent payments from SNT for the Damodar Gardens property, a partial year's payment of Rs. 14,200,000 was received. Damodar Gardens rent is paid annually. Lease rent payments are also being received from the Theosophical Education Society (TES) on behalf of the Adyar Theosophical Academy (ATA). ATA's lease payments are Rs. 100,000 per month, showing income of Rs. 1,200,000 for the year. We also receive a token lease payment from the Olcott Education Society of Rs. 1 per month.

Adyar Day donations, many of which come from foreign Sections, increased this year by Rs. 154,699. These were also affected by the changes in government regulations in 2021–2022 which made it more difficult for foreign donations to be processed. While partially making up for the decrease in 2021–2022, all in all Adyar Day donations are lagging behind those of prior years.

In fiscal 2022–2023 the TS registered to receive CSR donations again. CSR stands for Corporate Social Responsibility. In India, corporations are required to payout 2.5% of their net profit as charitable donations each year. The Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary (BMAD) applied to several corporations for CSR funding. They received Rs. 800,000 from Jan De Nul Dredging

India, Rs. 500,000 from Indo National, Ltd, Nungambakkam and a gift in kind of 3.5 tons of dog and cat food from Goa Medicos, Pvt. Ltd. worth Rs. 420,000. Several CSR donations have also been received in the current fiscal year, with other applications pending.

TPH sales increased again this year by Rs. 1,341,641 against last year's results. The 2021–2022 increase which was attributed to the ending of the global lockdowns caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, and the resulting recovery of sales orders continued into the 2022–2023 fiscal year. Sales from other departments: ALRC, BMAD and the Garden also increased by Rs. 105,702.

Other income for fiscal 2022–2023 increased this year by Rs. 3,950,735. The largest increases were in Convention income, Rs. 2,400,740, with a physical Convention being held, and scanning income of more than Rs. 600,000. Other items in this category Include: Electricity recoveries, Quarters Maintenance[TS1], Royalties received, Canteen income and Printing receipts.

2. NET RESULTS

The next results under the different Cost Categories, after utilizing the funds held for those purposes, as compared to those of the previous two years were as under. Negative figures (in brackets) indicate a surplus of income to expenditures:

Cost Category	Net (Surplus)/Deficit by Financial Year		
	2022–2023	2021–2022	2020–2021
a) Buildings, Grounds & Support	24,649,013	30,055,434	21,386,418
b) Charitable work	1,839,484	2,812,184	(3,061,779)
c) Propagation of Theosophy	7,540,224	2,974,432	1,458,994
d) International offices	4,068,863	2,686,624	2,669,155
e) TS Primary	(34,385,213)	(70,588,116)	(14,684,863)
Totals	<u>3,712,371</u>	<u>(32,059,442)</u>	<u>7,767,925</u>

The following table restates the above figures using the Cost Categories as shown per the Income Tax definitions for a Charitable Trust as included in form 10b beginning fiscal 2022–2023. A report showing the cost centers that are included within each category was included in your audit package.

	Cost Category	2022–2023	2021–2022	2020–2021
a)	Education	249,828		
b)	Medical	649,546		
c)	Preservation of Environment	56,789		
d)	Preservation of Monuments, Art Objects & Items of Historic Interest	16,555,449		
e)	Relief of the Poor	841,115		
f)	Others that do not fit in above categories	(14,640,356)		
	Totals	3,712,371		

The GROSS results of each Cost Centre are explained hereunder:

2 (a) Buildings, Grounds & Support

	2022–2023	2021–2022	2020–2021
i) Bhojansala & Leadbeater Chambers	563,944	1,465,356	1,693,025
ii) Garden	825,475	3,095,701	2,243,166
iii) General Manager’s Office	164,370	95,717	189,572
iv) Headquarter’s Projects	—	—	(1,583,333)
v) Housekeeping	3,186,582	2,221,719	2,307,836
vi) Information Technology	369,491	329,397	201,724
vii) Maintenance	14,580,213	16,868,863	9,341,317
viii) Sanitation	774,651	859,145	1,011,298
ix) Security	<u>4,950,673</u>	<u>5,119,536</u>	<u>5,981,813</u>
Totals	<u>25,415,399</u>	<u>30,055,434</u>	<u>21,386,418</u>

2a(i) The operations of Bhojansala & Leadbeater Chambers resulted in a deficit decrease of Rs. 901,412 as compared to 2021–2022. This was mostly due to an increase in canteen income due to the reinstatement of the physical Convention.

2a(ii) The deficit in the Garden department decreased this year by Rs. 2,270,226. This is almost solely due to the receipt of a large donation of Rs. 2,286,080 toward the development of the Medha Garden that is located next to the theatre. This is another example of expenses paid in one year while the funds to cover them are received in another. Otherwise the Garden Department’s results remain stable.

2a(iii) The increase of the deficit in the General Manager’s Office is mostly due to the return of salary expense due to the return of the one paid employee in this department from another department.

2a(iv) The Headquarters’ Projects cost centre was again not utilized during 2022–2023. This cost centre is utilized only when there is a specific, large, temporary project that the TS administration wants to track separately.

2a(v) The deficit in the Housekeeping department increased this year by Rs. 964,863. Housekeeping has become responsible for Masonry and much of the painting work on the TS buildings increasing these expenses as well as the increased salary expense for these workers. This helps our bottom line because it reduces payments to outside contractors who would charge more for this work.

2a(vii) The deficit seen in the Maintenance department decreased this year by Rs. 2,288,650. Last year it had increased by Rs. 7,527,546 due to the resumption of maintenance work from outside contractors after the lockdowns were over. The deficit decrease in 2022–2023 shows some “catching up” to previous maintenance work levels. Outside contract expense as

well as in-house repair and maintenance expenses are both down as are purchases of various supply items.

2a(viii & ix) The Sanitation and Security departments showed decreases in their deficits from last year by Rs. 84,494 and Rs. 168,863 respectively due to decreases in salary and overtime expense.

2 (b) Charitable Work

	2022–2023	2021–2022	2020–2021
i) Adyar Nature & Environment Centre	(2,300)	—	10,000
ii) Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary	5,496,380	5,908,921	(3,414,427)
iii) Besant Scout Camping Centre	—	—	1,260
iv) Education (OES)	623,700	286,190	87,447
v) Education (TS)	351,123	359,409	—
vi) Welfare Grants	1,311,347	1,019,571	907,596
vii) Free Dispensary & Medical Aid	447,379	375,788	341,388
viii) School fees & books	198,000	228,950	166,000
ix) Theosophical Order of Service	44,828	(126,191)	138,160
Totals	<u>8,470,457</u>	<u>8,052,638</u>	<u>1,762,576</u>

Donations restricted to the above usages are now shown on the Income Statement as Restricted Donations to the various cost centres. Surpluses not used to cover expenditures in the year donated are kept in invested “Funds” until needed to cover expenses in subsequent years. This year those surpluses totaled Rs. 267,075, and a total of Rs. 10,865,503 over and above current year donations was utilized for charitable purposes. Interest totaling Rs. 6,023,751 was also added to the “fund” balances in 2022–2023.

2b(i, ii & iii) The Adyar Nature and Environment Centre (ANEC) which was started a few years ago has had no financial activity to speak of. Plans have been in the works for the installation of a butterfly garden in the south campus. If realized, this will be covered by a donation for the purpose. However, the TS is looking at expanding its environment activities overall. If alternate plans are put into place, ANEC may be incorporated into those ventures. The Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary’s (BMAD) financial results remained stable in 2022–2023 as compared with those of 2021–2022. BMAD’s impact continues to grow with both in-patient and out-patient surgeries and treatments, care extended to “community” dogs and cats and the care of some wild animals at the government’s request. BMAD is aggressively pursuing donations via social media and requests for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funding. Responses to their efforts has helped to keep up with ever increasing expenses as their outreach grows. In the current year we have registered with the government for assistance with funding for wildlife rescue. The Besant Scout Camping Centre has been inactive for many years. There are no current plans to revive it.

2b(iv, v, & viii) The cost centre for Education (OES) increased its deficit by Rs. 337,510

in 2022–2023 due to the fact that two sets of school uniforms were paid for in 2022–2023 as opposed to only one set in 2021–2022. The results of the Education (TS) cost centre remained stable. The cost of tuition for our TS scholarship students to ATA did increase and the fees for a field trip were paid. However, donations also increased enough to cover these expenses. The deficit for school fees and books decreased by Rs. 30,950 in 2022–2023. All of these cost centres are completely covered by “funds” that have been, and continue to be, donated for their purposes. In fiscal 2021–2022, education expense related to the TS were separated from those previously used for OES. The TS covers the cost of school uniforms and some other expense for OES students. The TS Education funds cover the cost of scholarships, and related expenses, given to the children of TS and OES employees for attendance at the Adyar Theosophical Academy (ATA). School fees and books covers educational assistance for the children of TS employees. The allotment is between Rs. 3,000–5,000 per child, the amount depending on the standard/grade in which the child is enrolled. This is covered by the N. Sri Ram Fund with its use as according to his will.

2b(vi & vii) The deficits of the Welfare Grants and the Free Dispensary increased by Rs.291,776 and Rs. 71,591 respectively in 2022–2023. The Welfare Grants pays for medical and educational assistance to TS employees as per the parameters of the Annie Besant Charitable Fund. The Free Dispensary offers services to TS employees and residents. Expenses increased for medicine, medical supplies and consultant fees.

2b(ix) The TOS received a donation from the TOS in Italy again this year. This was earmarked for scholarships to approximately 25 female students in Odisha region and matched funds given by the TOS there. A grant was also given to an orphanage in Chennai on behalf of the TOS Chennai for ceiling fans.

2 (c) Propagation of Theosophy

	2022–2023	2021–2022	2020–2021
i) Adyar Library & Research Centre	1,498,139	2,116,979	1,132,723
ii) Adyar Theosophical Academy	(101,295)	—	(3,863)
iii) Archives & Museum	781,358	638,116	585,583
iv) Book Gifts	—	—	—
v) Conventions & Seminars	7,379,384	11,950	(808,523)
vi) Information & Public Relations	—	—	—
vii) School of the Wisdom	67,280	1000	—
viii) Theosophy Science Centre	—	2,311	3,980
ix) Theosophical Publishing House	(19,952)	(45,754)	(13,713)
x) <i>The Theosophist & Adyar Newsletter</i>	526,131	369,221	979,649
xi) Vasanta Press	854,093	<u>1,110,661</u>	<u>807,431</u>
Totals	<u>10,985,138</u>	<u>4,204,484</u>	<u>2,683,267</u>

2c(i) The year end results for the Adyar Library show a decrease in the deficit of Rs. 618,840. This is due to an increase in ALRC sales and scanning fees this year of Rs. 609,774. The net deficit of the ALRC was completely covered again this year by previously donated “funds”.

2c(ii) Adyar Theosophical Academy (ATA) is included here for information only. It is no longer a TS department as it is now part of the Theosophical Education Society, a registered Society in its own right. However, since we expect to receive donations for construction of new classrooms for ATA by the TS (the TS owns the land and buildings), we will continue to report those separately, as a cost centre, for the information of the General Council.

2c(iii) The increase in the deficit results of the Archives and Museum is mostly due to increased preservation, electrical and honorarium expenses. However, these were partially offset by an increase in donations and scanning fees.

2c(v–viii) This year the annual Adyar Convention returned as a physical convention held at Adyar. The Convention produced a deficit of Rs. 7,379,384. While registration fees totaled Rs. 2,654,683 and donations of Rs. 73,208 were received, all of the normal convention expenses were back as well. In addition, Rs. 5,127,362 was spent on maintenance repairs and the painting of buildings in order to return them to a state acceptable for the housing of delegates. Rs. 2,798,663 in previous donations from the Convention “fund” was used to partially cover the deficit, exhausting the Convention “fund”. (The huge maintenance costs realized in fiscal 2022–2023 have not been repeated in 2023–2024. Currently, it looks like the registrations received will cover most of the convention expenses.)

2c(vii) The School of the Wisdom also returned to physical status for some of its programs this year, resulting in a deficit of Rs. 67,279 as opposed to only Rs. 1,000 in fiscal 2021–2022. A half person earning an honorarium was added to the staff, and a Zoom Pro subscription was purchased.

2 (c) (ix) The Theosophical Publishing House 2022-2023 2021-2022 2020-2021

1) Gross profit from sale of publications	1,794,490	1,020,823	484,359
2) Royalty and copyright fees	297,390	283,305	800,926
3) Surplus/(loss) from <i>Theosophical Digest</i>	8,200	8,050	—
4) Net surplus/(deficit) of the TPH	19,952	45,754	13,713
5) Loss from the <i>Theosophist</i> & <i>Adyar Newsletter</i>	(526,131)	(369,221)	(979,649)

The TPH surplus shows a decrease for fiscal 2022–2023 of Rs. 26,202 from 2021–2022 and a small increase over that of 2020–2021. While sales were up by Rs. 1,250,454, purchases also increased by Rs. 1,308,936.

2c(x) The increase in the deficit, by Rs. 156,910, from the publication of *The Theosophist*

& the *Adyar Newsletter*, from that of fiscal 2021–2022, is due to a decrease in sales and foreign exchange gain of Rs. 108,627 and an increase in publication costs of Rs, 48,284.

2c (xi) The decrease in the deficit of Rs. 256,568 for Vasanta Press is the result of increased printing receipts of Rs. 53,672 and decreased production costs. Vasanta Press offers its services to all departments in the TS as well as to related groups such as the Olcott Education Society and others. These amounts are then billed to the departments, and others each month through a “Consolidated Bill”. Treasury, the GM and VP management have been looking at how VP prepares these charges. Some changes have been implemented that will give a better reflection of specific costs that are being charged to the departments and others which will ensure a more stable presentation of them on the financial statements. This process needs to be refined still further.

2 (d) International Departments:

The results of the offices of the President and Vice President showed an increase in the deficit of Rs. 456,564. expenses for Honorariums, labor, salaries, repair and maintenance and vehicles all increased as well as adding travel for the Vice President. The Secretary’s office showed an increased deficit in 2022–2023 of Rs. 140,909. All of this was attributable to travel expense with trips to Naarden for the General Council meetings in June 2022 and the portion of travel from Helsinki to York, England for the European Congress in August 2022. About half of the increased deficit in the Treasurer’s office, Rs. 825,567, was also attributable to travel expense to Naarden in June 2022, and to York in August 2022. The purchase of the travel to Naarden in June 2023 was also made during fiscal 2022–2023. Consultancy expense also showed an increase of Rs. 353,090 this year.

2 (e) TS Primary:

This cost centre, is a repository for the more uniform and general TS items. All donations, unless restricted to a specific department, are posted to this cost centre as are fees and dues received, license fees and income from dividends and interest on TS investments. On the expense side the Society’s expenditures for depreciation, payroll, admin charges, expenses for income tax, property and water taxes, insurance, land related expenses, legal and court costs and statutory fees and dues are all posted to the TS Primary cost centre.

Its activity in 2022–2023 resulted in a surplus of Rs. 34,385,213. This is less than last year’s surplus by Rs. 36,202,903. However, fiscal 2021–2022 figures included large donations from the American Section totaling Rs. 48,952,967. Once these large, one time donations are taken into account, the surplus from 2022–2023 appears more reasonable. It is then down from that of 2021–2022 by approximately Rs. 14,000,000 and up from the surplus of 2020–2021 by about Rs. 20,000,000. The increase from fiscal 2020–2021 can be explained by increases in the receipt of fees & dues, license fees and donations that together total approximately Rs. 17,000,000.

The decreased surplus in 2022–2023 (after adjusting for the large donation in 2021–2022) can be explained by increased expenses, namely depreciation which more than doubled with the completion of Leadbeater Chambers, the LBC kitchen, the renovation of classrooms at Olcott Memorial Higher Secondary School, renovation work at the Admin building and Headquarters Hall, and other projects that moved from “work in process” to completed. Depreciation does not

attach to a fixed asset until the project is completed. Consultancy fees were also nearly tripled this year, and we showed increases in property taxes and water taxes.

It is worthy of note that the 40-year-old labor case the TS was involved in was closed by the Labour Court on 09.09.2021, after the TS and the union reached a settlement agreement for payments to the 63 workers (or their heirs). Some payouts were made during FY 2021–2022, with a provision of Rs. 7,960,000 remaining on the TS books at 31.3.2022. The remaining payments were made during 2022–2023, or forfeited if the worker or his/her heirs did not claim the payment. The liability of the TS ceased, per the court order, as of 30.09.2022. The unclaimed provision was then returned to the TS general fund.

3. Net Deficit:

The books of the Theosophical Society for fiscal 2022–2023 show a net deficit of Rs. 13,129,867. In 2021–2022 The TS books showed a surplus of Rs. 25,453,754. As was said before, TS results have been yo-yoing for the last number of years. We expect that to stabilize by fiscal 2024–2025. The reasons for the deficit have already been explained.

In addition, while all income is reflected on the Income & Expense Statement, the amount of income received during the year, and used for capital expenditures is shown on the Balance Sheet. Amounts for Capital costs/ Fixed Assets paid in 2022–2023, net of deletions, amounted to Rs. 42,766,054. Of this amount, Rs. 35,866,949 was paid from current year donations and other income, with the additional Rs. 6,899,105 covered by the utilization of funds (also shown on the Balance Sheet) representing prior years donations. In addition, excess restricted donations in the amount of Rs. 267,075 were added to the Other/Earmarked Fund balances to be used in subsequent years, and Rs. 691,338 was added to the Corpus Fund this year.

4. Capital Expenditure:

Capital additions/improvements totaling Rs. 42,766,054 were added to Fixed Assets this fiscal year, 2022–2023. There were no deletions. The additions included additional work in progress on the ATA Temporary classroom expansion and Kirby Gardens campus for Rs. 4,281,764 and Rs. 560,759 respectively; work on the New Quadrangle renovation in the amount of Rs. 9,114,119; and the rebuilding of the Social Welfare Centre classroom for Rs. 4,077,746. A number of renovations and building improvements were completed during fiscal 2022–2023 including, Leadbeater Chambers, the LBC Kitchen, new classrooms at Olcott Memorial Higher Secondary School, and several residences. Work was also done on the Admin building, Headquarters Hall and electrical and plumbing infrastructure. Several departments benefited from new Computers and other equipment as well.

5. Funds & Investments:

The investments of the Society totaled Rs. 495,517,029 at the end of this fiscal year as compared with Rs. 275,481,497 at the end of the 2021–2022 fiscal year. This includes the Rs. 250,000,000 security deposit received from SNT as part of the lease deed for the Damodar Gardens property. The principal amount of the security deposit is refundable and cannot be used by the TS. However, the interest received is unrestricted as to its use. These funds are invested in scheduled banks and financial institutions and government bonds, with 30% being invested in mutual funds. (The percentage of investment in mutual funds was decreased in fiscal 2023–2024).

6 . Acknowledgement:

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve the Theosophical Society as its Treasurer and continue to marvel at the Masters guiding me here. Treasury continues to work on the specific goals it has set for itself to ensure that the books of the TS reflect its financial position as accurately and transparently as possible by training staff so that they can perform their jobs to the best of their ability, ensuring compliance with all government regulations and ensuring consistency in the treatment of various financial transactions. In all of this I rely heavily on the diligent and capable work of the Treasury staff, especially on the knowledge and skill of my assistant, Vighnesh RVS. I gratefully thank and acknowledge them all for their efforts.

I wish to thank President Tim Boyd and the General Council for the trust they have placed in me, and wish to acknowledge the Executive Committee, the International Secretary, the General Manager and Department Heads for all of their assistance throughout the year.

Nancy Secrest
International Treasurer

ACCOUNTS AND BUDGETS

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020
FEES AND DUES RECEIVED — 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

(INR)

The Theosophical Society in:			
	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Section / Regional Association / Presidential Agency			
Africa East and Central	-	-	
Africa, South	-	-	
Africa, West	-	-	
America Central	-	-	35,752.00
Argentina	-	-	383,144.00
Asia, East and Southeast	-	-	
Australia	211,704.00	-	
Austria	10,920.00	-	
Bangladesh	-	-	
Belgium	-	-	110,714.00
Bolivia	-	-	77,466.00
Brazil	773,947.00	-	
Canada	-	-	79,491.00
Costa Rica	-	-	78,278.00
Chile	-	-	
Colombia	-	-	2,902.00
Cuba	-	-	
Dominican Republic	13,670.00	27,421.00	20,000.00
England and Wales	-	-	304,815.00
El Salvador			2,500.00
Finland	270,435.00	-	258,960.00
France	-	-	
Germany	-	-	117,370.00
Greece	-	-	24,693.00
Hungary	11,378.00	-	39,057.00
Iceland	61,166.00	-	
India	192,165.00	231,567.00	111,368.00
Indonesia	-	-	
Ireland	18,605.00	-	10,994.00
Italy	176,547.00	196,544.00	197,302.00
Mexico	59,737.00	71,040.00	93,812.00
Netherlands, The	-	-	
New Zealand	50,233.00	-	42,178.00
Norway	-	-	
Pakistan	-	-	
Peru	12,185.00	-	16,121.00
Philippines, The	-	-	48,300.00
Portugal	-	-	24,468.00
Puerto Rico	23,823.00	18,073.00	28,000.00
Russia	-	12,871.00	
Scotland	-	-	11,772.00

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Section / Regional Association / Presidential Agency			
Slovenia	43,320.00	-	37,755.00
Spain	167,940.00	-	155,977.00
Sri Lanka	-	-	
Sweden	-	-	
Switzerland	19,622.00	35,826.00	42,819.00
Togo	-	-	
Ukraine	-	14,811.00	
Uruguay	4,645.00	-	7,959.00
USA	723,245.00	650,458.00	689,976.00
Venezuela	-	-	
	-	-	
Lodges attached to Adyar	-	-	
Khana Wara Lodge (Bolivia)	16,482.00	17,490.00	
Lotus Lodge (Croatia)	-	-	
Arc en Ciel, and Ananda Lodges (France)	57,066.00	51,196.00	
Sofia Lodge (Indonesia)	-	-	
Covenant Lodge (Israel)	88,503.00	88,976.00	
Fraternidad (Paraguay)	4,726.00	-	
Blavatsky Lodge (Slovenia)	13,154.00	-	
Orlando Lodge (USA)	10,890.00	-	26,559.00
Blavatsky Lodge (Qatar)	-	-	
Fellows-at-large	19,182.00	10,522.00	27,546.00
Unknown	-	10,405.00	
Zagreb Croatia			10,596.00
Equador			3,620.00
Nairobi Lodge			3,500.00
Unknown	17,197.00	10,405.00	176,785.00
Total	3,072,487.00	1,447,605.00	3,302,549.00

FAL DETAILS 2022-2023			
MORTEN NYMANN OLESEN			2,602.00
WEINIE			2,030.00
NICARAGUA			2,500.00
RAM ALEXANDER			20,414.00
TOTAL			27,546.00

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

(INR)

EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT	AMOUNT	INCOME	AMOUNT	AMOUNT
Opening Stock		7,321,858	Sales Accounts		4,847,510
Purchase Accounts		6,419,633			
ALRC Inventory	47,050		Sales (Schedule 7)	3,778,082	
BIMAD	1,355,499		Subscriptions (Schedule 8)	340,428	
C & S Stores	2,407,797		Printing & Photocopying (Schedule 9)	728,999	
Electrical Stores	1,047,998				
TPH Inventory	1,561,289				
Direct Expenses		34,838,321	Direct Incomes		33,443,608
Animal Welfare (Schedule 1)	16,442,583		Convention Income	2,400,740	
Convention	38,841		CSR Receipt	1,300,000	
Discounts	29,850		Donations- (Schedule 10)	25,617,297	
GST	216,000		Fees and Dues	3,191,179	
Guest Room Exp. (Linens, Lamps, Etc.)	330,244		Gifts in Kind	420,000	
Kitchen Equipment	1,140		Reimbursement (Schedule 11)	514,391	
Repairs and maintenance (Schedule 2)	13,215,470				
Garden development and maintenance (Schedule 3)	1,534,120		Indirect Incomes		43,047,144
Publication (Schedule 4)	847,491		Canteen Income	2,430,037	
Education & Scholarship (Schedule 5)	2,182,582		Dividend Income	2,146,108	
		54,658,181	Gain/Loss on Redemption of Mutual Funds	80,598	
Indirect Expenses			Interest Income (FC)	12,040,955	
Amazon Fees	62,202		Interest Income (I)	10,607,439	
Audit Fees	165,200		Licence Fees	15,400,092	
Bad Debts	56,530		Rounding Off (+/-)	211	
Bank Fees and Charges	23,465		Royalties Received	297,390	
Canteen (Other Than Food / ingredients)	1,466,760		Unrealised Forex Gain / Loss	44,315	
Computer accessories	128,961				
Consultancy Fees	2,569,240		Closing Stock		8,769,865
Conveyance	153,472				
Credit Card Fees	75,504		Excess of Expenditure over Income		13,129,867
Danamolo Fees	75,495				
Depreciation	8,464,993				
Documentaries, Video, Photo Etc	486,460				
Electricity Charges (MES)	2,909,302				
Electricity	194,920				
Employee Benefit (Schedule 6)	30,717,438				
Equipment	1,788,828				
Fuel and Petrol	715,150				

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

(INR)

EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT	AMOUNT	INCOME	AMOUNT	AMOUNT
Insurance	51,980				
Interest, Penalties	66,168				
Laundry	55,742				
Lease Rent	2,460				
Legal and Court	169,000				
Miscellaneous	11,015				
Medicine (Dispensary)	163,939				
Office Administration	328,696				
Platform/Gateway Fees and Changes	476,032				
Preservation	127,554				
Property Tax	565,956				
Provisions (Fruits, Vegetables, Milk Etc.)	468,815				
Security	249,243				
Signage	4,484				
Stationery	141,744				
Statutory Fees / dues	39,989				
Subscription	203,047				
Telephone and Internet	292,727				
Travel (Non-Local)	770,478				
Water Tax	272,989				
Website	136,563				
Foreign Exchange Gain / (Loss)	5,642				
Total		103,237,993	Total		103,237,993

COMPILED BY US

For the Theosophical Society

For Srihari & Co. (Chartered Accountants)

N. Secrest (Treasurer)

Manoj Niranjana G. (Partner)

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

(INR)

LIABILITIES	AMOUNT	AMOUNT	ASSETS	AMOUNT	AMOUNT
Capital Account					
General Fund (as per note)	83,015,720		Fixed Assets		134,213,529
Less: Excess of Expenditure over Income	13,129,867		Adyar Library Holdings	3,073,752	
	69,885,854		Buildings	139,074,125	
Less: Interest Income transferred to Endowment fund	6,564,164		Computers and Other IT Fixed Assets	1,595,804	
			Electrical and Telephone Installations	7,898,974	
Corpus / Endowment Funds	228,198,793		Furniture and Fixtures	3,688,228	
Legacy Deposits	500,000		Land and Development	2,571,367	
Other / Earmarked Funds	109,749,965		Plant and Machinery	19,544,872	
			Vehicles and Livestock	3,351,256	
Long Term Liabilities			Plumbing Infrastructure	2,105,692	
Security Deposits		250,000,000	Work- in-Progress	21,102,576	
			Accumulated Depreciation	(69,793,118)	
Current Liabilities		18,214,280	Investments		495,517,030
Provisions	13,701,464		Investment in Scheduled Banks - FCRA	130,700,000	
Sundry Creditors	323,246		Investment in Scheduled Banks - Non-FCRA	155,131,321	
Retention	1,258,301		Investments in Financial Institutions - FCRA	29,351,000	
Advances	387,852		Investments in Financial Institutions - Non-FCRA	32,118,000	
Deposits (Readers and Borrowers ALRC)	224,751		Investments in Mutual Funds	148,216,709	
Employees Co-Operative Society	220,383				
ESI Employee's Contribution Liability	9,816		Current Assets		40,254,169
ESI Employer's Contribution Liability	42,307		Closing Stock	8,769,865	
Income Tax Deducted at Source (TDS) for Vendors	180,886		Deposits (Asset)	696,340	
Liabilities - Others	1,200,095		Loans & Advances (Asset)	10,767,455	
PF Employee's Contribution Liability	135,440		Accrued Interest	1,062,787	
PF Employer's Contribution Liability	134,357		Sundry Debtors	995,849	
Liability	395,382		Cash-in- Hand	90	
Duties & Taxes			Bank Accounts	17,156,349	
			Input SGST	805,435	
Total		669,984,727	Total		669,984,727

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020
COST CATEGORY SUMMARY -per TS Categories 01 Apr-2022 to 31-Mar-2023

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY					
					(INR)
Particulars	Expense	Income	Surplus or (Deficit)	Funds Utilization	Surplus or (Deficit) after Funds
Buildings, Grounds and Support					
Bhojanasala & Leadbeater Chambers	2,994,081	2,430,137	(563,944)	-	(563,944)
Garden	3,215,438	2,389,963	(825,475)	(766,387)	(59,089)
General Manager's Office	164,370	-	(164,370)	-	(164,370)
Housekeeping	3,186,582	-	(3,186,582)	-	(3,186,582)
Information Technology	369,490	-	(369,490)	-	(369,490)
Maintenance	14,580,213	-	(14,580,213)	-	(14,580,213)
Sanitation	774,651	-	(774,651)	-	(774,651)
Security	4,950,673	-	(4,950,673)	-	(4,950,673)
Totals	30,235,499	4,820,100	(25,415,399)	(766,387)	(24,649,013)
Charitable Works					
Adyar Nature and Environment Centre	1,200	3,500	2,300	-	2,300
Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary	25,897,698	20,401,318	(5,496,380)	(5,294,213)	(202,167)
Education (OMHSS)	623,700	-	(623,700)	(623,700)	-
Education (TS)	614,381	263,258	(351,123)	-	(351,123)
Free Dispensary and Medical Aid	449,379	2,000	(447,379)	-	(447,379)
School Fees and Books	198,000	-	(198,000)	(198,000)	-
Theosophical Order of Service	169,500	124,672	(44,828)	(44,828)	-
Welfare Grant	1,311,347	-	(1,311,347)	(470,232)	(841,115)
Totals	29,265,205	20,794,748	(8,470,457)	(6,630,972)	(1,839,484)
International Offices					
President & Vice President	1,018,464	-	(1,018,464)	-	(1,018,464)
Secretary's Office	492,177	2,462	(489,715)	-	(489,715)
Treasurer's Office	2,560,684	-	(2,560,684)	-	(2,560,684)
Totals	4,071,325	2,462	(4,068,863)	-	(4,068,863)
Primary Cost Category					
Theosophical Society	13,463,469	47,825,451	34,361,983	(23,230)	34,385,213
Propagation of Theosophy					
Adyar Library and Research Centre	2,669,198	1,171,059	(1,498,139)	(292,731)	(1,205,408)
Adyar Theosophical Academy	65,000	166,295	101,295	-	101,295
Archives and Museum	810,024	28,665	(781,358)	(11,531)	(769,828)
Convention & Seminars	9,853,332	2,473,948	(7,379,384)	(2,798,663)	(4,580,721)
School of the Wisdom	68,570	1,290	(67,280)	(67,280)	-
The Theosophical Publishing House	3,716,301	3,736,252	19,952	-	19,952
<i>The Theosophist & Adyar Newsletter</i>	756,170	230,038	(526,131)	(274,710)	(251,421)
Vasanta Press	942,044	87,952	(854,092)	-	(854,092)
Totals	18,880,639	7,895,500	(10,985,138)	(3,444,915)	(7,540,224)
Total Cost Categories	95,916,136	81,338,262	(14,577,874)	(10,865,503)	(3,712,371)
Add: Difference in Stock	-	-	1,448,008	-	
Add: Utilization for Fixed Assets*	-	-	-	(6,899,105)	
Net Surplus	95,916,136	81,338,262	(13,129,866)	(17,764,609)	

* Adyar Renovations Rs.5,227,417.37, BMAD Rs.1,015,850.92, and TPH Rs.655.837

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020
COST CATEGORY SUMMARY -per Income Tax Categories 01 Apr-2022 to 31-Mar-2023

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY					
Particulars	Expense	Income	Surplus or (Deficit)	Funds Utilization	(INR) Surplus or (Deficit) after Funds
Relief of the poor					
Theosophical Order of Service	169,500	124,672	(44,828)	(44,828)	-
Welfare Grant	1,311,347		(1,311,347)	(470,232)	(841,115)
Totals	1,480,847	124,672	(1,356,175)	(515,060)	(841,115)
Medical					
Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary	25,897,698	20,401,318	(5,496,380)	(5,294,213)	(202,167)
Free Dispensary and Medical Aid	449,379	2,000	(447,379)	-	(447,379)
Totals	26,347,077	20,403,318	(5,943,759)	(5,294,213)	(649,546)
Preservation of Environment					
Adyar Nature and Environment Centre	1,200	3,500	2,300		2,300
Garden	3,215,438	2,389,963	(825,475)	(766,387)	(59,089)
Totals	3,216,638	2,393,463	(823,175)	(766,387)	(56,789)
Preservation of Monuments, Art Objects & Items of Historic Interest					
Adyar Library and Research Centre	2,669,198	1,171,059	(1,498,139)	(292,731)	(1,205,408)
Archives and Museum	810,024	28,665	(781,358)	(11,531)	(769,828)
Maintenance	14,580,213		(14,580,213)	-	(14,580,213)
Totals	18,059,435	1,199,724	(16,859,711)	(304,261)	(16,555,449)
Education					
Adyar Theosophical Academy	65,000	166,295	101,295	-	101,295
Education (OES)	623,700		(623,700)	(623,700)	
Education (TS)	614,381	263,258	(351,123)		(351,123)
School Fees and Books	198,000		(198,000)	(198,000)	-
School of the Wisdom	68,570	1,290	(67,280)	(67,280)	-
Totals	1,569,651	430,843	(1,138,808)	(888,980)	(249,828)
Others that do not fit above categories					
Bhojanasala & Leadbeater Chambers	2,994,081	2,430,137	(563,944)	-	(563,944)
Convention & Seminars	9,853,332	2,473,948	(7,379,384)	(2,798,663)	(4,580,721)
General Manager's Office	164,370	-	(164,370)	-	(164,370)
Housekeeping	3,186,582	-	(3,186,582)	-	(3,186,582)
Information Technology	369,490		(369,490)		(369,490)
President & Vice President	1,018,464		(1,018,464)	-	(1,018,464)
Sanitation	774,651		(774,651)		(774,651)
Secretary's Office	492,177	2,462	(489,715)		(489,715)
Security	4,950,673		(4,950,673)		(4,950,673)
Theosophical Society (Primary)	13,463,469	47,825,451	34,361,983	(23,230)	34,385,213
The Theosophical Publishing House	3,716,301	3,736,252	19,952	-	19,952
<i>The Theosophist & Adyar Newsletter</i>	756,170	230,038	(526,131)	(274,710)	(251,421)
Treasurer's Office	2,560,684		(2,560,684)		(2,560,684)
Vasanta Press	942,044	87,952	(854,092)	-	(854,092)
Totals	45,242,488	56,786,241	11,543,753	(3,096,603)	14,640,356
Total Cost Categories	95,916,136	81,338,262	(14,577,874)	(10,865,503)	(3,712,371)
Add: Difference in Stock	-	-	1,448,008		
Add: Utilization for Fixed Assets*	-	-	-	(6,899,105)	
Net Surplus	95,916,136	81,338,262	(13,129,866)	(17,764,609)	

* Adyar Renovations Rs.5,227,417.37, BMAD Rs.1,015,850.92, and TPH Rs.655.837

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020
BUDGET 2023-2024

(INR)

EXPENSE					PARTICULARS	INCOME				
Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual till 30/9/21 (6 months)	Budget		Actual	Budget	Actual till 30/9/22 (6 months)		
2021-2022	2021-2022	2022-2023	2022-2023	2023-2024		2021-2022	2021-2022	2022-2023	2022-2023	
4,005,443	2,262,557	3,371,208	1,146,844	4,213,569	Buildings, Grounds, and Support Bhojansala & Leadbeater Chambers Garden General Manager's Office Headquarters Projects Housekeeping Information Technology Maintenance Sanitation Security Totals	1,650,000	797,200	1,050,000	345,541.00	
4,165,276	3,312,184	4,617,319	1,504,642	5,437,228		500,000	216,483	300,000	51,020.00	
176,000	95,717	119,500	71,844	667,776		-	-	-	-	
-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	2,276,080.00	
2,710,178	2,221,719	3,504,608	1,485,932	4,194,307		-	-	-	-	
376,000	329,397	387,300	124,211	607,000		-	-	-	-	
10,833,108	17,517,196	23,022,189	7,938,867	42,739,694		475,000	648,333	1,575,000	218,717.00	
1,017,969	859,145	1,035,267	340,835	1,039,897		3,000	-	10,000	-	
4,906,103	5,119,536	5,981,678	2,246,030	6,458,387		700,000	-	700,000	-	
28,190,076	31,717,450	42,039,069	14,859,206	65,357,858		3,328,000	1,662,016	3,635,000	2,891,358	
-	-	310,000	-	180,300		Charitable Works Adyar Nature and Environment Centre Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary II Besant Scout Camping Centre Education (OMHSS) Education (TS) Free Dispensary and Medical Aid School Fees and Books Theosophical Order of Service Welfare Grant Totals	-	-	-	-
13,131,588	23,700,065	22,263,234	10,850,388	26,712,084			7,500,000	17,791,144	5,300,000	8,629,951
-	-	4,738,950	-	-			-	-	1,200,000	-
7,260	-	11,260	-	-			-	-	-	-
600,120	286,190	738,000	365,950	600,000	-		-	-	-	
465,000	465,000	755,000	195,000	755,000	-		105,591	-	109,258	
393,313	386,261	406,419	176,560	442,754	-		10,473	-	-	
700,000	228,950	400,000	198,000	400,000	-		-	-	-	
-	1,015,833	500,000	190,000	130,000	-		1,142,024	-	124,672	
750,000	1,119,571	850,000	567,124	900,000	-		100,000	-	130,000	
15,582,281	27,201,870	30,217,863	12,543,022	30,120,139	7,500,000	19,149,232	6,500,000	8,863,881		
-	-	-	-	-	Totals	-	-	-	-	
598,562	561,901	616,841	525,163	815,341	International Offices President & Vice President Secretary's Office Treasurer's Office Totals	-	-	-	-	
662,973	358,281	561,932	303,349	496,594		8,000	2,214	3,000	717	
2,208,241	1,749,287	2,336,885	1,256,157	2,458,130		3,000	(19,370)	-	-	
3,469,776	2,669,468	3,515,658	2,084,669	3,770,064		11,000	(17,157)	3,000	717	
-	-	-	-	-	Primary Cost Category Theosophical Society	-	-	-	-	
9,655,525	9,322,482	16,640,500	3,125,394	13,545,600		77,567,471	79,905,598	73,929,201	27,901,411	
-	-	-	-	-					95,413,281	

(INR)

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THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020
CAPITAL BUDGET 2023–2024

(INR)

Particulars	Amount	
Adyar Library and Research Centre		
One desktop computer	70,000	
One server	120,000	
Software downloads	50,000	
Software for library management	75,000	
Total ALRC	315,000	Library fund can cover
Adyar Nature and Environment Centre		
Fencing for butterfly garden	100,000	Will be covered by a donation
Total ANEC	100,000	
Bhojanasala /LBC		
Heavy duty vacuum cleaner	40,000	
Total Bhojanasala /LBC	40,000	
General Manager's Office		
PC with Software, Printer	90,000	
Total General Manager's Office	90,000	
Security		
CCTV Cameras	50,000	
Walkie Talkie phones	30,000	
Total Security	80,000	
TPH and Editorial		
Windows - licensed version (7)	35,000	
Scanning machine	50,000	
Total	85,000	TPH/Publications fund can cover
Vasanta Press		
Riso SF5350 machine - duplicator, printer	500,000	
Heavy duty printer	40,000	
Total Vasanta Press	540,000	
BMAD		
Borewell, sump & water tank at BMAD	2,500,000	
Cattle She renovation	-	
Pipelines in Sapota Gardens	-	
Fencing-BMAD	2,000,000	
Other building renovations	-	
Software	-	
Total BMAD	4,500,000	
TS Buildings and Infrastructure		
Building Improvements		
Bhaktha Vilas	2,000,000	
Admin Bldg renovation*	2,000,000	
New Classroom - Olcott School	2,000,000	
Fencing - Olcott School	2,000,000	
ATA Classroom in Kirby Gardens	10,000,000	
Total Building Improvements	18,000,000	

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020
CAPITAL BUDGET 2023–2024

(INR)

Electrical Infrastructure	
CEIG Projects - lamp posts repl (Main)	3,000,000
Other CEIG projects	500,000
Total Electrical Infrastructure	3,500,000
Plumbing Projects	
New Toilets & sanitation infra	500,000
Total Plumbing Projects	500,000
Plant and Machinery	
Pumps & motors replacements	300,000
Total Plant & Machinery	300,000
Total Buildings & Infrastructure	22,300,000
Total Capital Expenditure	28,050,000
Less: Covered by Funds or known Donations	(2,256,347.00)
Capital Budget Deficit	25,793,653

Potentially covered by CSR or
International donations

* To be covered by CSR funds and other donations

HEADQUARTERS

**ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020
INDIA**

OFFICERS AND HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS FOR (October 2022–September 2023)

Executive Committee:

1.	Mr Tim Boyd	<i>President</i>
2.	Dr Deepa Padhi	<i>Vice-President</i>
3.	Ms Marja Artamaa	<i>Secretary</i>
4.	Ms Nancy Secrest	<i>Treasurer</i>
5.	Mr Pradeep Gohil	<i>General Council Member</i>
6.	Mrs Jenny Baker	<i>General Council Member</i>
7.	Prof. C. A. Shinde	<i>General Council Member</i>
8.	Mr Jaikumar Kannan	<i>Member</i>
9.	Mr A. L. Somayaji	<i>Member</i>

General Manager

Adyar Library *Director (Sanskrit Studies)*
Librarian

Editorial *Head*

Garden *Acting Superintendent*

Housekeeping *Superintendent*

Leadbeater Chambers and Bhojanasala
Superintendent

Maintenance *Deputy Superintendent*

Medical Service *Doctor*

Museum and Archives *Officer in Charge*

Sanitation *Superintendent*

School of the Wisdom *Director*

Security *Superintendent*

Theosophical Publishing House *Manager*

Vasanta Press *Manager*

Mr Jaikumar Kannan
Mrs Radha Raghunathan
Ms Jaishree Kannan (from 16 Jan 2023)
Mr Sukesh
Mrs Vijaya Kumari
Mrs Vijaya Ravindran

Mrs Veena Ramachandran
Mr U. Elangovan
Dr R. Revathy
Ms Jaishree Kannan
Mrs Vijaya Ravindran
Mrs Erica Georgiades
Mr K. Ravindran
Mr Jaikumar Kannan
Mr S. Baskar

OLCOTT EDUCATION SOCIETY

	<i>Chairman</i>	Mr Tim Boyd
	<i>Secretary</i>	Mr Jaikumar Kannan
	<i>Treasurer</i>	Mr T. S. Jambunathan
Olcott Memorial School	<i>Headmistress</i>	Mrs R. Lalita
	<i>Director</i>	Dr P. Thirumalai
Social Welfare Centre	<i>Manager</i>	Mrs R. Mythili
Vocational Training Centre	<i>Director</i>	Mrs Sudha Natarajan (until 31 Mar 2023)
Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary		
	<i>Coordinator</i>	Mr Shravan Krishnan
HPB Hostel	<i>Warden</i>	Ms Janaki

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, 2023

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS 2023																
										Section / RA / PA			Number of			
National Societies and Sections						26					Lodges	Centres	Members	*		
Regional Associations (RA)						10		27	Indonesia			11	-	252	S	
Presidential Agencies (PA)						14		28	Ireland			2	-	94	R	
Lodges Attached to Adyar						7		29	Italy			22	18	714	S	
Total Lodges						947		30	Mexico			12	4	164	S	
Total Centres						164		31	Netherlands			10	7	367	S	
Total Membership 2022						24,103		32	New Zealand			11	5	484	S	
Total Membership 2023						24,858		33	Norway			1	1	15	R	
								34	Pakistan			No report				P
Section / RA / PA		Number of						35	Peru			2	-	34	P	
		Lodges	Centres	Members	*			36	Philippines			21	6	170	S	
1	Africa, East							37	Portugal			7	3	108	S	
	& Central		5	-	107	S		38	Puerto Rico			3	-	49	P	
2	Africa, South		6	-	94	S		39	Russia			9	-	146	P	
3	Africa, West		11	-	242	S		40	Scotland			3	1	84	R	
4	America, Central		1	1	16	R		41	Slovenia			5	2	75	R	
5	Argentina		17	8	279	S		42	Spain			12	10	344	S	
6	Asia, South-East		5	-	719	P		43	Sri Lanka			3	-	182	P	
7	Australia		9	7	643	S		44	Sweden			6	-	158	S	
8	Austria		3	-	78	R		45	Switzerland			2	1	25	P	
9	Bangladesh		6	-	102	P		46	Togo			2	-	18	R	
10	Belgium		8	-	60	S		47	Ukraine			8	1	105	S	
11	Bolivia		6	3	68	P		48	Uruguay			5	-	53	R	
12	Brazil		32	23	618	S		49	USA			32	48	3,434	S	
13	Canada		5	2	113	R		50	Venezuela			2	-	16	P	
14	Chile		3	-	73	R		Total			940	163	24,702			
15	Colombia		4	2	32	P										
16	Costa Rica		4	-	60	P		Attached to Adyar			Lodges	Centres	Members	*		
17	Cuba		12	-	590	S	1	Croatia, Lotus			1		12	L		
18	Dominican Rep.		2	2	45	P	2	France, Ananda & Arc-de-Ciel			2	1	30	L		
19	England & Wales		18	3	550	S	3	Israel, Covenant			1		56	L		
20	Finland		17	1	306	S	4	Paraguay, Fraternidad			1		18	L		
21	France		22	-	176	S	5	Qatar, Blavatsky			1		9	L		
22	Germany		7	3	135	S	6	USA, Orlando			1		17	L		
23	Greece		9	1	142	S	7	Adyar, Fellows-at-Large			-		14	F		
24	Hungary		1	-	33	P		Total			7	1	156			
25	Iceland		8	-	100	S										
26	India		528	-	12,230	S										
								Grand Total			947	164	24,858			

* L= Lodge attached to Adyar, P=Presidential Agency, R= Regional Association, S= Section

THE ADYAR LIBRARY AND RESEARCH CENTRE (ALRC)

From 18th January 2023, Ms. Jaishree Kannan took charge as the Librarian of the Adyar Library and Research Centre after more than 16 years of service of Prof. C. A. Shinde. The Adyar Library and its team thank him for the valuable service. From 1st April 2023, Adyar Library started a new initiative called 'Libraries as Communities' with the aim to increase the readership and invite the readers to make use of the resources available in the library. So far, this series had 7 sessions including subjects such as Meditation, Mysticism, Spirituality, Path of Self Knowledge and Right Course (Niti). More than a hundred

books have been displayed on the theme every month. The program includes follow-up sessions of discussion on 1 or 2 following Saturdays. Another activity to revitalize the library was a seminar held on 26 & 27th July 2023. A group of scholars came together to discuss on the theme 'Interpretation of Classical Texts in the 20th and 21st Centuries'. The seminar included the Presidential Address 'Tracing the growth of the Bhagavad Gita in the United States' by Mr Tim Boyd. New books have been added to the collection.

Ms Jaishree Kannan
Librarian

ADYAR NATURE AND ENVIRONMENT CENTRE (ANEC)

The ANEC is a program that resonates deeply with the Society's Mission of cultivating an understanding and deep-rooted appreciation of the Unity of all Life. ANEC works with other like-minded organisations to try and weave together the magic of science, the beauty in Adyar's natural ecology, and the profound spiritual wisdom of connections with nature to inspire people to open up

to this realization of Unity. This year ANEC helped organize a talk with renowned nature writer and conservationist Robert Macfarlane. ANEC also worked with the Madras Naturalists' Society and others to organize several nature walks at the TS campus in Adyar.

Geetha Jaikumar
Coordinator

ADYAR THEOSOPHICAL ACADEMY

ATA began its fifth academic year in June 2023 with 185 students from Nursery to Grade 6. Three new classrooms with glass up to the ceiling create a beautiful setting of learning in the midst of nature. New site called Kirby Gardens has been identified for expansion of school up

to Grade 12. ATA continues with its immersive and participatory activities providing divergent experiences to its learners, brimming with curiosity, questions and discoveries, through outdoor learning experiences, Nature Journaling and other mindfulness activities,

meditative assemblies to start the day, field trips as well as celebrations of Indian festivals and events. The delegates from the International Convention visited ATA on 2 Jan 2023 and engaged in the learning environment. The Annual Sports Meet took place on 21 Jan 2023 with President Tim Boyd as Chief Guest. The Republic Day celebration on 26 Jan involved children in a vibrant discussion on the Indian constitution. “Umang”, ATA’s Annual Day, was celebrated on 25 March 2023 with Mrs Uma Shanker, Dir of Indian Montessori Training Courses, as Chief Guest. ATA rang in its fifth year on 24 June 2023 with poetry, music, puppetry, a skit titled ‘A Day in ATA’, and a school-wide art project illustrating the beauty of the campus and their hopes for the future. To celebrate India’s 77th Independence Day, Ms Nancy Secrest hoisted the National Flag. On 30 Sep 23 was Ganith Charcha, Math Day celebration, aimed at exploring the diversity of Mathematics; Tim Boyd and other TS members enjoyed interacting with activities set up by students. Erika Chavez, a Theosophist and educator from Argentina, with a vision to start a theosophical school, visited ATA for 6 months immersing herself in classrooms of Grades 1–6.

Special feature of this year is morning assemblies to start the day with singing, presentations by students, educators and resource people. There are monthly sessions of STEMGYM workshops to practically explore different aspects of science. Various guests from Argentina, Japan, New Zealand, Spain, New Guinea, Colombia and Finland, visited and spoke about diverse cultures. Grade 6 visited TS Museum and were enthralled by the rich legacy of TS. One of the special field trips was to witness the rocket launch of Aditya L1 satellite at Indian Space Research Organization. Organic Farming is one of the cherished activities starting with planting, nurturing, harvesting and preparation of yummy dishes. Educators enriched themselves through sessions of Waldorf philosophy; an Energy Healing work-shop; A Relook at Education, based on Aurobindo’s Integral Education; How to bring about Creative Thinking based on Six Thinking Hats by Edward De Bono; Lesson Planning to integrate multi-disciplinary approach; Understanding Krishnamurti’s Educational Philosophy; as well as a series of Maths workshops.

Ms Sonal Murali
Administrator

BESANT MEMORIAL ANIMAL DISPENSARY

The BMAD is a charitable outreach program of The Theosophical Society, and has of late grown to become one of Chennai’s largest and busiest animal shelters. This year the shelter has treated over 15000 outpatients, has admitted

over 700 sick or critically injured street animals for treatment, discharged 400 animals post treatment, conducted over 400 major surgeries and 2500 animal birth control surgeries, a key initiative of the shelter, and found permanent

homes for over 100 animals. The BMAD team was completely engaged with conducting rescues of stranded animals and humans alike, during Cyclone Michuung. Several animal birth control marathons were conducted this year

as an initiative to control the rising street animal population in the city, and in turn provide them with a better quality of life.

Mr Shravan Krishnan
Coordinator

BLAVATSKY MUSEUM

The final weeks of 2022 saw a vigorous pursuit to re-introduce past splendour to the Museum's three main halls. For some time since early summer, the Museum has opened its doors daily. The ceiling fans were kept running to increase the draft that would dry out the massive walls of our ancient Library. Even before, the Garden Department had replanted the flowers outside the South Wall into ceramic vessels to better control the water supply and keep our walls as dry as possible. Those efforts were rewarded. After the Surendra Narayan Archives had moved to their newly designated space, the old AC space and its two rooms were dedicated to provide exhibitions sched-

uled to go up right away during the convention — one of which was to be dedicated to the early history of the School of the Wisdom (1920s). Such concepts in turn lit the candles to an activity which may lead on to even wider stages. A group of restorers from Delhi, have occupied most of the rooms of the ground floor in the Main Building. They are taking on our numerous treasures of paintings from the 1910s until the 1940s (received from an important Bangalore collection) to yet again acquaint us with their unimpeded delights.

Dr Bernd Jesse
Curator of the Collection

OLCOTT EDUCATION SOCIETY

The Social Welfare Centre now runs with a staff strength of 11 and servicing on average of 38 children during this period. Children were taught action songs, number names in English and Tamil, alphabets in English & Tamil, storytelling, rhymes and nature study. New Montessori materials were purchased from the funding of TOS in Finland. Deepavali, Besant Birthday, Pongal, Republic Day, Independence Day, and Children's Day were

celebrated in the centre with guests from TS. During the convention, cultural programs were presented by our kids along with VTC students.

The HPB Boys Hostel is providing free accommodation and food for the students for the school academic year; Hostel re-opened on 12th June 2023 and it hosts 12 students on average. The Hostel has now a pavement outside the hostel for students to study and play,

thanks to Mrs Lily Boyd. The birthdays of all the students as well as Madame H. P. Blavatsky's birthday, local festivals Diwali, Vinayagar Chaturthi, Saraswathi Pooja and Christmas were celebrated at the hostel. New dresses were provided to the students during the festival period. During Sundays, students attend training classes on *parai*, native drum instrument and attend spoken English classes.

The Vocational Training Centre had carefully curated activities to provide free tailoring and embroidery training to economically women backward. The students are actively attending the classes with enthusiasm leading to learning outcomes and actions in the domain of tailoring, embroidery & stitching. Every 6 months VTC donates 2 new tailoring machines to the best outgoing students to encourage them positively. Annually, the VTC supports the International Convention by making the convention bags as well as other weaving work. The activities have created opportunities for people to participate in and discuss initiatives from the government in skilling and vocational education.

The Olcott Memorial Higher Secondary School had some landmark events; 'Yuva Rasika' music work-shop, sports meet, Diwali festivity, Kabaddi and Handball, Annual Day with cultural events, US Consulate music workshop,

Science experiment, and Rotary child abuse prevention. Joyful Christmas was celebrated in December. Project Day creativity and Pongal unity festivities were celebrated in the presence of Mrs Lily Boyd. Republic Day had Mr Tim Boyd as Chief Guest. Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Camp shaping leadership qualities for classes 9 and 11 were done. Students paid homage to Colonel Olcott on Olcott Day. Jessica Kay Frankl's English teaching support was much appreciated during this period. Olcott School convened a parents-teachers meeting for stressing the significance of education and students. The school introduced free breakfast scheme to all the students under the support of Akshyapatram a non-governmental organization. The investiture ceremony marked the induction of the Olcott school council. It was a year of many events like pollution awareness program by The Times of India, Interact Club installation for community service, Ocean Matters project, Independence Day celebration, drug awareness programs, and sports achievements. Students participated in diverse activities: robotics, eye screening, 3D image designing, embracing holistic education with environmental awareness and skill development.

Mr Jaikumar Kannan
Secretary

THE SCHOOL OF THE WISDOM

During the past year (September 2022–September 2023) the English SOW consisted of six courses, five on-line and one in the campus. The Spanish SOW consisted of four online classes. Additionally, during the International Convention 2022, SOW organised the Art Exhibition by Shiva Ram; a MINI SOW focusing on “Theosophy & Ecology: Practical Wisdom for Living in the Contemporary World” with Linda Oliveira, Pradeep Gohil and Radha Raghunathan; and the celebration of the 100 years of foundation of the Brahmavidya Ashram. Furthermore, during the campus programme, with Dr Ravi Ravindra, the following alternative activities were organised:

01. Exploration Day: ‘A Contemplative Walk through Nature and to hear about the History of the Adyar Campus’ with Shikhar Agnihotri;

02. Chanting workshop with Jaishree Kannan;

03. Vegan cooking class with Nidhi Sharma.

The SOW English classes were as follows:

01. From intellectual understanding to life practice: Foundations of the Buddha’s teaching in the Light of Theosophy by Tran-Thi-Kim-Dieu;

02. The Fundamentals of Advaita

Vendanta Tattva-bodha Cycle II” by Dr Radha Raghunathan;

03. Sanskrit: The Divine Language by Dr Sadananda Das;

04. The Necessary Journey of Self-transformation by Dr Ravi Ravindra (Campus);

05. “Expanding our Understanding and Compassion” by Dr Barbara Herbert;

06. Exploring Meditation, the Real Occult Power of a Human Being by Tran-Thi-Kim-Dieu.

The SOW Spanish classes were as follows:

01. Los Mahatmas y la Sociedad Teosófica: Origen y Propósito with Isis M. B. Resende

02. Pasado, presente y futuro de la humanidad. Su origen y evolución física, intelectual y espiritual (Antropogénesis) with Esteban R. Langlois

03. “Simbología y Teosofía” with Maria Carmen César Galante

04. “La Meditación Su Importancia Y Valor Spiritual” con Gaspar Torres Martines. Unfortunately, the classes were interrupted as our brother Gaspar passed away.

We express our many thanks for the entire SOW team.

Mrs Erica Georgiades
Director

SURENDRA NARAYAN ARCHIVES

The Surendra Narayan Archives hosted an exhibition during the International Convention 2022–’23. The title

of the exhibition was ‘Olcott Diaries and HPB’s Scrapbooks’. Some interesting snippets, anecdotes and incidents of the

founders were displayed. The scrap-books and diaries brought out Madame Blavatsky's & Col. Olcott's multifaceted personalities. This made the exhibition more interesting and informative by displaying the original source. The

Surendra Narayan Archives attracted 23 scholars and enquirers requesting documents from the Archives during 2022–2023.

Ms Jaishree Kannan
Officer in Charge

THE THEOSOPHICAL ORDER OF SERVICE

The TOS is present in 36 of the 59 countries where the TS is active and has several outreach avenues. The *In-touch on-line* e-Newsletter, normally published quarterly, has been on hiatus, but will start up again soon. The website, <www.international.theoservice.org>, is currently being updated and we continue to increase the activity on the TOS International Facebook Page, <www.facebook.com/tosinternational/>. This was a year of “thinking outside of the box” as several TOS countries began new programs. Meditations for Peace were begun in Argentina, Belgium and the USA. Brazil began a study of the TOS Handbook, and created a Theatre Group that presented several plays with philosophical content. They also distributed musical instruments to children. India began a dance group for children. Also in India, counselling of 150 prisoners was initiated, and a conference was instituted, which may very well become an annual event. Italy started a new project called “mail from the elves”. Adherents receive little

envelopes containing small, moving phrases cited from books. The goal is to share and embrace awareness, openness of heart, solidarity, love, positivity, brotherhood and acceptance. In the Philippines, students at the Golden Link College began a hydro-planting system under the auspices of the TOS there. Several countries supported persons involved in the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. Generous support continued for assistance to refugees from the war between Russia and Ukraine. Hungary and Italy purchased an ambulance to support first aid efforts to soldiers currently involved in the war. Help with various women's issues, as well as education and youth involvement remain central issues for many groups worldwide. Most are also active in animal welfare and supplying humanitarian assistance at both group and individual levels. Almost all countries have healing groups.

Ms Nancy Secrest
TOS Secretary

THE THEOSOPHICAL PUBLISHING HOUSE (TPH)

With the first full year operational following COVID-19 pandemic, the sales of books increased during the year. TPH undertook the reprinting of 46 out-of-stock book titles. Three new books were published by TPH during this year:

1. *Theosophy in the 21st Century*

by Carlos Pérez Menéndez

2. *Annie Besant in India* by Pedro Oliveira

3. *Blessed by Mysterious Grace* by Ravi Ravindra.

Mr Jaikumar Kannan
Acting Manager

WORLD FEDERATION OF YOUNG THEOSOPHISTS (WFYT)

Since 2020, after almost 2 years of online meetings and activities aiming to create a solid base for its work, the recently revived WFYT officially restarted its activities from September 2022 with the election of the seven officers of the Board constituted by Brandon Goh (Singapore), Catalina Isaza-Cantor (Colombia), Christopher See (Philippines), Elena Bessie Camplone (Italy), Merike Martsepp (Estonia), Sara Ortega (Spain) and Seth Edwards (USA). As a continuation of the previously started work with a group of members from all the corners of the world, the WFYT has ongoing projects in different avenues such as: Propagation of Theosophy, Arts, Monthly Articles, Leadership program, Social Media, English for Universal Brotherhood, Writing of Children's Books, Meditation sessions, Fundraising projects to support Olcott Memorial School and BMAD, regular meetings with Young Theosophists in the Spanish Speaking countries, Podcast episodes,

and biweekly meetings, among others. During this period, the WFYT has organized 3 International Gatherings, two of them at the ITC Naarden (The Netherlands) in June 2022 and 2023 with 30 and 51 participants respectively, coming from a total of 21 countries. The guest speakers who joined us were Tim Boyd (International President), Vicente Hao Chin Jr. (Philippines) and Kurt Leland (USA) respectively. In December 2023 another in-person gathering is taking place in Adyar (India) with 38 participants prior to the International Convention. The Federation currently has a membership of around 200 members from all the continents. The main avenues of communication and outreach are the web page <wfyf.org>, the WhatsApp community where members can access and join the different projects, as well as Facebook <facebook.com/wfyf2022> and Instagram <instagram.com/wfyf2022>.

Board Members

**REPORTS OF WORK
IN
NATIONAL SOCIETIES AND SECTIONS
REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS
PRESIDENTIAL AGENCIES
LODGES ATTACHED TO ADYAR**

(Where necessary, reports have been translated, edited or condensed)

NATIONAL SOCIETIES AND SECTIONS

AFRICA, EAST AND CENTRAL

Founded 1947, membership 107. The East & Central African Section, comprising of Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, and Zambia, had reduced levels of Theosophical activities. The highlight was the visit of Isis Resende in January/February of this year. Her 20-day lecture tour of Lodges in Kenya, Uganda and Zambia attracted a lot of new people, resulting in increased attendance at her public

lectures. Some serious members found Zoom talks organized by various Sections of the TS world an alternative to the weekly Lodge meetings, However, most members in our Section are not easily able to join due to unavailability of reliable Wi-Fi connectivity which is quite expensive.

Mr Narendra M. Shah
General Secretary

AFRICA, SOUTH

Founded 1909, membership 94 (2022). The lodges of the Theosophical Society have not recovered from the 2020 lockdowns as anticipated, with a noticeable shift in people's mindsets since that event. Although the number of members has not declined significantly since 2020, attendance at meetings has yet to improve. Despite internet inquiries and expressions of interest in membership, many fail to attend, and it is believed that only those willing to actively participate in the lodges should be signed up. For those far from a lodge, membership in the unattached members lodge is offered. The

practice of brotherhood is seen as central to Theosophy, with a focus on fostering and practicing brotherhood at the lodge level. On the weekend of January 27 and 28, 2024, lodge presidents and section committee members met in Johannesburg to discuss the current state of the section and individual lodges and to explore ways to position the section for growth, revamp Theosophical courses, meditation training, and spiritual practices for members.

Mr Desmond Douglas Chapman
Deputy General Secretary

AFRICA, WEST (CAMEROON, GHANA, LIBERIA, NIGERIA)

Founded 1956, membership 242 (2022). (No report)

Dr Kwadwo Tutu
General Secretary

ARGENTINA

Founded 1920, membership 279. The Argentinian Section is promoting the return to in-person meetings and setting its efforts on the work of the Lodges and in the fulfilment of the Three Objects. Twelve two-year virtual courses on Theosophy were started for members-at-large in places where there are no TS Lodges. Seven books were printed in Spanish: *The Secret Doctrine, Volume I, Cosmogogenesis* by H. P. B.; *Sri Ram, a Life of Altruism and Wisdom* by P. Oliveira; *Notes on the Bhagavad Gita* by S. Row; *Approaching the Secret Doctrine* by P. Sender; *The Yogic Ascent to Spiritual Heights* by G. Hodson; *Reflections on the Eternal Wisdom* by J. Mills; *Raja Yoga*

by W. Salter. The Section's YouTube channel was expanded having 441 videos and more than 4,000 subscribers. Three activities were held at the Theosophical Centre in San Rafael, Mendoza: In October 2022 a National Conference under the theme: *Practical Theosophy: An Invitation to Live Altruistically, Transforming Knowledge into Wisdom*. On February 2023, with an attendance of 77 people, the 56th Summer School was held under the theme: *The Inner Life: Self-knowledge and Contemplation in the Three Paths* by Juliana Cesano, guest speaker.

Mr Leandro Cesano
General Secretary

AUSTRALIA

Founded 1895, membership 643. With the end of the restrictions of the global pandemic, most of the activities have returned to normal. After almost three years, January 2023 saw the resumption of the Section's National Convention as an in-person gathering in Adelaide, South Australia. There was a healthy attendance (perhaps because of the long hiatus) with a host of excellent speakers and over 55 residential delegates and 20-day visitors making the Convention a memorable event. In April and May 2023. International Lecturer, Juliana Cesano led the annual Australian

School of Theosophy at Springbrook, Queensland. After the School concluded, Juliana continued with a tour of the Australian Section, giving talks and workshops in Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth, Hobart, and Melbourne. In October 2022, a three-day event was held at the Springbrook Education and Retreat Centre entitled "Ancient Wisdoms in a Modern World: A Contemporary Exploration of the Stories and Symbols That Bring Meaning to Our Lives".

Mr Stephen McDonald
General Secretary

BELGIUM

Founded 1911, membership 60. Seven lodges continued regular activity, some of them publishing newsletters and all of them organising study meetings and monthly lectures on theosophical topics, some hybrid, some in-person only. All TS Adyar commemorations were organised at the Brussels head-quarters as a national activity: White Lotus Day,

Founders Day, Adyar Day, and Annie Besant Day. Healing and peace meditations which have a loyal following were conducted in cooperation with Belgian TOS. The Brussels headquarters also welcomed EFTS Executive and Council meetings in early September 2023.

Ms Sabine Van Osta
General Secretary

BRAZIL

Founded 1920, membership 618. There are 33 Lodges and 25 Study Groups in Brazil. In 2023, the 42nd Summer School with the theme “Ancient Wisdom and Peacebuilding” was hosted in January. The 29th International Theo-sophical School and Winter Seminar with the theme “Light on the Path and the Spiritual Journey — Esoteric Instructions and Existential Challenges” was held in July. The hybrid format made it possible for people from other countries to take part, with access to renowned speakers from the International TS, and simultaneous translation to Portuguese. The National section held weekly Online Theosophical Studies Groups, open to public. TS headquarters in Brasilia reopened for in-person services in Feb 2022, including

the secretariat, book-shop, and Hatha Yoga sessions from Monday to Friday. From December 2023, in-person lectures resumed at the National Headquarters on Saturdays at 6 pm which were recorded and made available on TV SUPREN’s YouTube channel. TOS marks 115 years since its beginning, publishing an International Handbook. A Theosophical school at the Raja Centre is also being planned by Theosophical Education.

The Theosophical Publishing House had a successful year with their magazine *Sophia* reaching its 100th edition, and 20 years in circulation. It is available in main newsstands and digitally, with a small number of subscribers.

Mr Otavio Ernesto Marchesini
General Secretary

CUBA

Founded 1905, membership 590. The quarterly online *Revista Teosófica Cubana* (*Cuban Theosophical Magazine*) has been published without interruptions.

The Annual Convention of the Cuban Section was held on January 16th, with the theme *Universal Brotherhood*. Official celebrations and commemorations of

the TS were celebrated accordingly. Also, the traditional Summer School of the Cuban Section was held on July 25th and 26th, with the subject of *The Three Paths of Yoga*. During this period (January-October 2022), the studies of the lodges were focused on various main theosophical books and subjects but were suspended during August (summer holidays); in-

stead, a public conference was held about different theosophical teachings, every Saturday of the month. Every year, in January and in September, the Cuban Section held a Basic Study Course on Theosophy, every Saturday at 2:00 p.m. at the Section's headquarters, in Havana.

Mr Fidel Carranza Macías
General Secretary

ENGLAND & WALES

Founded 1888 and 1922, membership 550. The TS in **England and Wales** continued to promote the ancient wisdom teachings through the activities of Headquarters and Lodges and Centres. Headquarters presented 24 online Sunday evening lectures. Besides local speakers they had international speakers from Belgium, Italy, Scotland, and USA. The 18 Lodges and three Centres met regularly for both personal study and public talks. They continued the Foundation and Higher online Diploma Courses in Theosophy. The Summer School was held again after four years, in August, with Pablo and Michele Sender as chief speakers on "The Spiritual Path in Challenging

Times". A new group, "Young Adult Theosophists of England and Wales", was formed by enthusiastic younger members, affiliated to The World Federation of Young Theosophists. The quarterly magazine *Esoterica* continued to be distributed to members and interested parties around the world. The website had a substantial increase of visits and visitors. Facebook and YouTube followers have increased. Membership growth was helped by the Associate Scheme enabling people to study Theosophy for two years before committing to becoming members.

Mrs Jenny Baker
General Secretary

FINLAND

Founded 1907, membership 306. There are seventeen lodges in Finland right now, 15 of them are organizing public talks regularly in different cities of Finland as well as in Estonia. Some of the lodges also organize weekly or monthly studies of theosophical books. Eight lodges have their theosophical

library. Two of the lodges, Blavatsky and Uranus, celebrated their 90th anniversary on 22nd September. The annual general meeting of the Finnish Section was held in Helsinki on May 6th with 37 members present. The Headquarters in Helsinki had public talks every Sunday throughout the year. During the summer months there

were two talks in a month organised by Blavatsky lodge. Some of the talks were also possible to listen to online. Foundation Day, Adyar Day and White Lotus Day were celebrated during the talks. TOS in Finland organized a spring festival on 29.4.2023 and a Christmas event on 11.12.2022 to raise funds. TOS supports Olcott Memorial High School, Social Welfare Centre and Boy's Hostel in Adyar. *Teosofi* magazine appears four

times a year. *The Letters from the Master of Wisdom, Second Series* collected and commented on by C. Jinarajadasa was published in Finnish language with 300 copies. An audiobook on Mabel Collins's *Valoa tielle (Light on the Path)* is available on YouTube and Soundcloud. TS on Finland's Facebook page has 1600 followers.

Mr Jean-Paul Silván
Vice Chairman

FRANCE

Founded 1899, membership 176 (2022). Bimonthly hybrid courses and online meditation sessions attracted a core of interested participants. Members participate in a silent retreat on the theme "Acquainting the Mind with Meditation" at the end of April. Some special programmes like public lectures took place as well. Founders Day, Adyar Day, and White Lotus Day were celebrated. An online study group on the Mahatma Letters with the Belgian Section and Spanish participants continued. A study group on fundamental theosophical teachings for new members also goes on.

The National Convention on "The Laws of the Higher Life" took place in the end of June with Sabine Van Osta, President of the European Federation of the TS, as guest speaker. The Section's online presence grew, including Facebook, Youtube and weekly e-newsletters. The TS publishing house, Editions Adyar, began to sell TPH Adyar books via website. The TS library was open to the public. The TS France magazine *Le Lotus Bleu* is published ten times a year both in electronic and in hard copy form.

Ms Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu
General Secretary

GERMANY

Founded 1902, membership 135. The three German annual meetings were held, as always, in the South in the autumn, in the North in the spring and our summer school in the centre of Germany. Guest of honour was again Esther Pockrandt, who joined us from Australia via Zoom meeting for two lectures on '*Taming the Dragon Within*'. Among others, a course

on the *Secret Doctrine* was continued. Isolde Sültemeyer brought us closer to Rukmini Devi Arundale's life and her great services to the TS, India and wildlife. The monthly online meetings bring together members and guests from all over Germany and is popular because all can listen to the best speakers nationwide without having to travel. Meanwhile,

three healing groups meet regularly and some meet to meditate for peace worldwide. The *Adyar Magazine* continues to be published 3 times a year. In December 2022 a special edition was published with

translated talks from the International Convention 2021. The list of German authors and lecturers is growing.

Mrs Manuela Kaulich
General Secretary

GREECE

Founded 1926, membership 742. Since June 2022 the measures against Covid-19 have been relaxed and we were able to organize hybrid meetings. Our members could attend meetings both with a physical presence and through Zoom connection. A Study Group on the Secret Doctrine also held meetings via Zoom. From October 2022, government measures against the pandemic were withdrawn and the Lodges started operating normally. Joint Lodges meetings and individual Lodges meetings were organized.

An increase in the membership was noted, with new members attending the lectures and study group more frequently. The General Assembly meeting of the Theosophical Society in Greece was held this year on 9 April 2023 with a good attendance. We have celebrated Foundation Day, White Lotus Day, and Adyar Day. Our magazine, *Ilisos*, is being published every three months and posted to about 200 subscribers in Greece and abroad.

Dr Alexandros Bousoulengas
General Secretary

ICELAND

Founded 1921, membership 700. A busy schedule is maintained from September to November and January to April, followed by a midsummer meeting lasting two to three days over a weekend. Generally, two public meetings are held each week, along with weekly meditations (Sri Vidya and others), Gröning healing groups, men's groups, classical movies, musical evenings, kirtan, and cacao ceremonies. The annual magazine *Gangleri* is published, and a near-weekly podcast focusing on spiritual experience and awakening is now being produced. The Blavatsky Lodge holds a weekly reading group, and the Facebook page is kept very active while the website

is being updated. Attendance at open meetings has increased from 10–15 attendees to nearly full house events with 50–90 participants, and Friday meetings are now being streamed, attracting several hundred viewers in the spring. Registration as a philosophical society with tax exemptions last year significantly improved finances in 2023, following years of using reserve funds to maintain the property. Many books have been published, with the latest featuring articles from the 100-year-old magazine. Eight lodges exist, seven in the capital and one in Akureyri.

Mr Haraldur Erlendsson
General Secretary

INDIA

Founded 1891, membership 12230. The highlight of the year was the second successive increase in membership of the Indian Section, including the membership of youth. The trend towards online lectures that was set due to Covid-19 a few years back has blossomed. Another highlight of the year was a plan and proposal of the Indian Section Executive Committee to contribute to the participation of about 100 members of the Indian Section in the 12th World Congress of the TS to be held in Vancouver in 2025. Under the aegis of the Indian Section, Theosophical Society, Varanasi, the three-day 131st Indian Section Convention was held from 28 to 30 October 2022 at the Radha Burnier Amphitheatre. The 175th Birth Anniversary of Dr Annie Besant was celebrated at the Indian Section HQ, Varanasi on 1st October 2022. Floral tributes were paid to Dr Annie Besant by the students and staff of the Educational Institutions, workers and members at the Section HQ. The Indian Section celebrated 147th Foundation Day through online mode. Adyar Day was organized online as well. White Lotus Day was observed

on 8 May 2023, in the Annie Besant Hall at the Indian Section HQ of the TS, Varanasi. The 99th Easter Conference was conducted from 7th to 9th April 2023 at the International HQ, and was based on the book *The World Around Us*, a compilation by Prof. C.A. Shinde of Dr Radha Burnier's 'On the Watch-Tower' (1980–2007). Five Federations conducted Study Camps at Bhowali from 26th April 2023 to 11th June 2023. Several online talks were given by the Indian Section President during the year, as well as by the national lecturers of TS India. All the 12 monthly issues of *The Indian Theosophist* were published in English and Hindi. The Indian Section website is <www.theosophy-india.org> and hosts several magazines from the different Federations. Theosophical Order of Service activities of TOS were engaged with the active participation of members at the National, Regional and Group levels during this year with a focus on reducing the suffering of all living beings.

Mr Pradeep H. Gohil
General Secretary

INDONESIA

Founded 1912, membership 252 (2022). (No report)

Mr Widyatmoko
General Secretary

ITALY

Founded 1902, membership 714. After overcoming the constraints caused by the Covid pandemic, the work is returning to

normalcy. At the same time, possibilities offered by digital technology have been continuously exploited at local, national

and international levels. The year saw positive results in the propagation of the theosophical literature. The *Rivista Italiana di Teosofia* (Italian Magazine of Theosophy) has been published bi-monthly. A day of in-depth studies on the subject of meditation led by the Vice President of the European Theosophical Federation, Tran-Thi-Kim Dieu, was organised at the Milan headquarters on 8 October 2022. Two Inter-group Seminars were organized, one at the Trieste headquarters on 22 October 2022 with the theme *This unknown Life: Theosophy and Knowledge of the Occult*. The second one was at the Turin headquarters on 29 January 2023 on *Art and Theosophy*. The 2023 edition of the traditional Theosophical Seminar in Ascona took place

from 24 to 26 March 2023 on the *Relationship between Art and Theosophy and the role of the Theosophical Society*. The ITS organised its 109th National Congress in Cervignano del Friuli from 2 to 4 June 2023 with the theme *Sublime harmony, beauty of life*. A 10-lesson online course on *Introduction Course to the Dzyan Stanzas — Part 1 — Cosmogogenesis* was held online. Worthy of special mention is the activity of the Italian Young Theosophists who are involved in translations and in taking care of the audio magazine. The monthly newsletter continues to be sent out and has over 3,600 active users.

Mr Antonio Girardi
General Secretary

MEXICO

Founded 1919, membership 164. It has twelve Lodges and four Study Centers and held some important events during this period. The School of Theosophy was held in Atlixco Puebla in November 2022 by Pablo Sender with the following topics: “Service as a Theosophical Path”, “The Theosophical Path of Meditation”, and “The Evolution of Higher Consciousness”. All lectures were held in person and transmitted live on Zoom, Facebook and YouTube, and recorded on the website. The TS in Mexico was invited by the Mexican Society for the Study of Religions, part of the National Institute of Anthro-

pology and History of the Government of Mexico, to participate in the “Colloquium on Spiritualism, Theosophy, and Spirituality”. Dissemination work is done via the web page www.sociedadteosofica.mx; two Facebook pages, <facebook.com/teosofiamx> and <facebook.com/teosofia.blavasky>; three YouTube channels, Teosofia en México, Sección Mexicana de la Sociedad Teosófica, and Sociedad Teosófica en México; and the magazines *Teotlsofia*, *Dharma*, *Duda* and the *Magazine of the IATF*.

Ms Juana Leonor Maldonado Ruiz
General Secretary

THE NETHERLANDS

Founded 1896, membership 367. It collaborates closely with the International Theosophical Centre (ITC) in Naarden, known as the “European Home” of the TS. The activities took place at the ITC included two autumn 2022 events themed “Exploring the latent powers in humankind”, a Spring 2023 seminar themed “What is consciousness”, and a Summer 2023 seminar led by Kurt Leland themed “Cooperative work with invisible worlds”.

From June 9th to 15th, the 2nd gathering of the World Federation of Young Theosophists was hosted at the ITC in Naarden, featuring a special seminar by Kurt Leland titled “The Path of Coop-

eration and the Spiritual Life”. The quarterly journal *Theosophia* is available online at <www.theosofie.nl> offering information about the TS in The Netherlands to both members and the general public.

Additionally, a digital bi-monthly newsletter is distributed to over 1000 subscribers. There are 10 Centers and 7 Centres affiliated with the TS, with a library housing 25,000 books available for study and borrowing. The Bookshop maintains a stock of theosophical and related books, primarily sold through their online web shop.

Mr Wim Leys
General Secretary

NEW ZEALAND

Founded 1896, membership 484. This year’s activities in the New Zealand Section are now back to pre-Covid levels. The January 2023 Convention was held in Whanganui, the theme was *Our Journey — From Me, to We, to the Oneness of All* with Nancy Secrest as the international guest speaker. The School of Theosophy was held in April over Easter with international speaker Dr Ravi Ravindra who spoke on the *Journey of Spiritual Search*. Immersion Weekend was held in early August with the theme: *Theosophy, a Path of Discovery*. The Online Theosophical Sunday’s program

had four sessions with Martin Leiderman from the USA presenting on *Exploring The Secret Doctrine*. Branch Seminars continued to be conducted by John Vorstermans and Renée Sell. A new TSNZ website was released in August which along with a new look and feel, added functional and improvements to our Events page, online shop and membership database in the backend system. *TheoSophia* continues to be popular in New Zealand and worldwide with its range of articles and themes.

Mr Richard Sell
General Secretary

THE PHILIPPINES

Founded 1933, membership 170. The Philippine Section is making a transition to in-person interactions after the pandemic. It marked its 90th anniversary in 2023 and conducted the National Convention online in November 2022, with the theme “The Quest for Truth: The Challenge for Our Times.” TS International President, Tim Boyd, delivered the keynote address. Activities included a recollection/retreat, national president and lodge presidents’ reports, meditation sessions, panel discussion, workshop/plenary session/action plans.

Monthly guided meditations with lectures and Q & A sessions occur on the first Sunday, while midweek public meditation sessions are conducted every Wednesday evening. Publications like *The Theosophical Digest*, *The Philippine Theosophist* news-

letter, and *Peace Ideas* remain consistent.

The TOS-Philippines engages in feeding programs, disaster relief during typhoons, and individual lodges undertake outreach activities. Correspondence courses continue with a few enrollees.

The TS in the Philippines maintains an online presence through Facebook, YouTube, and its website, facilitating broader outreach.

<https://www.facebook.com/theosophicalsociety>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/179019285476422>

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFWoNsNcipoTX_6p0bkKyQ0A/featured

<http://www.theosophy.ph/index.html>

Mr Charlton Jules Romero
General Secretary

PORTUGAL

Founded 1921, membership 108. It had at least three public sessions monthly. Along with the celebration of the traditional commemorative days integrated in the History of the Theosophical Society, sessions were held at least every fortnight, all well attended. The website continued to be a good reference to

those who show interest in knowing the Section’s history and activities. A regular newsletter is published. Other social networks were used to reach a larger public. Lodges and Study Groups worked regularly.

Mr Carlos Guerra
General Secretary

SPAIN

Founded 1921, membership 344. The Spanish Section has been working to implement face-to-face activities, in addition to online meetings and hybrid sessions. In the studies, the different

levels of knowledge are being addressed, from basic courses to the study of in-depth content for those more experienced. In addition to the particular activities of each Branch — which are many

and varied — the annual events organised by the Section have been held at the national level. These are the annual Silent Retreat, conducted by Tran-Thi-Kim-Diêu, at the end of October, the Iberian Days during the Easter season, the Sum-

mer School at the end of August, as well as the three significant dates for Theosophists: Foundation Day, Adyar Day and White Lotus Day.

Mrs Angels Torra-Buron
General Secretary

SWEDEN

Founded 1895, membership 158. The number of members has increased slightly and many of them are interested in the different study groups. A wide number of public lectures have been held, as well as a mini school on *Know-*

ledge and Reality during the autumn of 2022. The summer school was held successfully on the theme of *The Brain and Extended Consciousness*.

Mrs Birgitta Skärbo
General Secretary

UKRAINE

Founded 2013, membership 105. Theosophical work continued in Ukraine despite the ongoing war conditions since February 24, 2022. Eight Departments and an Interregional Study Center functioned. All Branches held meetings, focusing on studying classical theosophical literature.

Key events included the XVIII TS Convention “Living Now: Challenges of Internal Life” held online via Zoom in November. The White Lotus Day was observed on May 8, 2022. Additionally, ‘Herald of Light Day’ commemorating the 192nd birth anniversary of Helena Petrovna Blavatsky took place on August 12th.

TSU offered the online project “Theosophy for the Curious” on Saturdays from October 2022 to March 2023, acquainting participants with ancient wisdom. The website <http://theosophy.in.ua> remains active, alongside the Face-

book page <https://www.facebook.com/theosophy.in.ua> with over 2000 followers.

The School of Wisdom “The Key to the Inside” was conducted online in August-September 2023. The Science Group remained active with 12 participants, holding organizational meetings, methodological seminars, and public lectures regularly. Two bilingual electronic magazines, “Theosophy and Science” and “Svitoch”, had multiple issues published and available on the website <http://theosophy.in.uapublikatsiji/svitoch>.

The TSU distributed monthly electronic Newsletters and conducted over 80 actions aiding those affected by the war. The Order of Healing operated regularly, conducting weekly healing rituals and specially designed rituals for souls lost in the war. A psychological help group using Telegram was established.

Every Thursday, an All-Ukrainian

meditation for unity, support, protection of Ukraine, and the global theosophical movement occurs. Individual Thursday evening meditations have also been

offered to theosophists in Ukraine for two years.

Mrs Svitlana Gavrylenko
General Secretary

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Founded 1886, membership 3434. There was a slight increase in the membership over the prior year. The education department organized, in conjunction with the program committee, two successful weekend programs for the in-depth study of Theosophy: “Approaching *The Secret Doctrine*”, with Pablo Sender and “The Pervasive Presence Exploring H.P. Blavatsky’s Teaching on the Seven Principles”, with Dr Eugene Jennings. The Prison Program has seen a rise in the number of referrals and currently has

51 prisoners enrolled in the correspondence course, supported by 18 volunteer mentors across the country with a total of 115 prisoners as members of the TSA. Our annual Mind Body–Spirit Festival, *Theosofest*, was held in September and attracted approximately 3,000 visitors and 130 vendors. The Quest Book Shop continued to expand product lines, including offerings in world religions, mysticism, and children’s items.

Dr Barbara Hebert
General Secretary

REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

AMERICA, CENTRAL

Founded 1929, membership 16. At present, the Theosophical Society of Central America consists of one lodge, Teotl Lodge, and one study center, the Blavatsky Study Centre. The annual report highlights the study of books such as *The Bhagavad Gita*, *The Light of*

Asia, and *Esoteric Christianity*. An introductory course on Theosophy, *The Key to Theosophy*, is conducted through the Google Meet app.

Mrs Beatriz Elisena Martinez Pozas
Organizing Secretary

AUSTRIA

Founded 1891, membership 78. There are three Lodges with a total membership of 78 registered members. It turned out to be a challenging year as we had to expel the chairman of the Blavatsky Lodge in Graz and find and install a new board for the branch in Graz. Two Lodges offer weekly lectures throughout the study year. Study subjects are based on classical theosophical teachings and related subjects. The Vienna Lodge has not been operating for some time and must be re-

organized or even dissolved very shortly. In July some of our members attended the summer school organized by Karin Walzl, Chairwoman of the Johannes Lodge in Linz. Karin Walzl also attended the summer school of the German Adyar TS resp. the Hartmann group. Our members receive the Adyar periodical Magazine from the German TS Adyar, which is published three times a year.

Mr Albert Schichl
Organizing Secretary

CANADA

Founded 1924, membership 113. It had meetings every other Sunday with local speakers and from abroad. The website, the Facebook page, and the YouTube channel are continuously updated. To promote Theosophy, a more structured and up-to-date advertising was implemented. Some members were interviewed on a research project on “Spirituality in the

Modern World”. The aim of developing links with non-affiliated Lodges in Canada continued by organizing meetings with them. They expect to have a sixth Lodge soon. Some books studied were: *A Study In Consciousness*, *The Secret Doctrine*, *The Bhagavad-Gita*, and so on.

Mr Robert Béland
Organizing Secretary

CHILE

Founded 1920, membership 73. Public events after the pandemic attracted new members, including conferences on August 26, 2023, and October 14, 2023, titled “The greatest wisdom is to know yourself” and “Forgetting yourself to Serve,” respectively. Branches like Arundhati operated continuously, offering Zoom sessions for members facing health or travel issues. The Amor Branch adjusted its study schedule for increased participation. Santiago lodge resumed in-person activities from November 2022.

Seven introductory Theosophy courses were offered to the public at the national Headquarters, comprising rotating classes presented by the Education Department. At the end of these, attendees could choose to register to join Theosophical Society. Virtual study groups continued discussions on various theosophical books and topics. In May, the library reopened after a period of inactivity.

Mr Eric Concha Munoz
Organizing Secretary

IRELAND

Founded 1919, membership 94. In addition to study notes, messages, and uplifting quotations from inspiring texts, members had throughout the year the opportunity to join online programmes and receive online Theosophical magazines. In-person theosophical programmes restarted last Autumn for both Belfast and Dublin Lodge. In May 2023, the 16th All Ireland Theosophical Con-

vention on ‘Along the Path and Towards the Mountains’ was held in Dublin with the Guest Speaker Gerard Brennan from Australia, who is also affiliated to TS Ireland. Many supportive messages throughout the world were read, setting the tone for the occasion and sense of unity.

Ms Marie Harkness
Organizing Secretary

NORWAY

Founded 1913, membership 15. The Strømmen local Group of Theosophical Society in Norway has continued collaboration with the Darma with bi-monthly lectures which build on a course programme from Theosophic World Resource Centre, divided into 12

lectures. During the corona-pandemia and also afterwards, Strømmen local group has made its meetings available through Zoom. Now the groups meetings are transitioning to physical meetings.

Mr Audun Solberg
Organizing Secretary

SCOTLAND

Founded 1910, membership 84. The Glasgow Lodge has held a regular, very popular theosophical study group on Saturdays. The Organising Secretary gave talks/study sessions on *The Voice of the Silence* at every Lodge. The Glasgow

Lodge President, Malcolm Macqueen, gave a talk entitled “Theosophy and Hellenistic Astrology” at the AGM in June.

Mr Gary Kidgell
Organizing Secretary

SLOVENIA

Founded 1992, membership 75. Theosophical Society in Slovenia (TSS) has five lodges and two study centres. Blavatsky Lodge, one of the Lodges directly attached to Adyar, joined the Association this year and became the fifth Lodge. The work takes place at Theosophical meetings in the Lodges and also meetings once a week via the ZOOM platform — the members have expressed their interest in this way of working for the future so that members

from all Lodges can attend the meetings. All Memorial Days were organized and celebrated at the Society level — the birthday of Annie Besant was celebrated via ZOOM; all the others were celebrated with physical gatherings. TSS issues the magazine *Theosophical Thought*, for now only in digital format and also has its website <www.teozofskodrustvo.si>.

Mrs Irena Primc
Organizing Secretary

TOGO

Founded 1997, membership 18 (2020). No report.

Mr Kouma Dakey
Organizing Secretary

URUGUAY

Founded 1925, membership 53. The reported period is characterized by virtual activities with the Zoom platform, and recently, simultaneous hybrid meetings. In the reporting period, contact is maintained through the website, receiving visits from different countries, both Spanish-speaking and others. On the website of the TS in Uruguay, theosophical books are shared a modality that has given good results. The TS in

Uruguay hold public activities such as “The Path, Truth and Life”, The Basic Theosophy Course, a Workshop titled “The damage of anger and how to work on it”, among others. The TS in Uruguay continues to disseminate the conferences and courses organized by the Inter-American Theosophical Federation, and different Spanish-speaking sections.

Mr Ramón García
Organizing Secretary

PRESIDENTIAL AGENCIES

ASIA, EAST AND SOUTH-EAST

Founded 1990, membership 719. The Agency operates in four countries: Singapore, Malaysia, Japan, and Myanmar.

Though there is no lodge in China, remarkable growth was seen through the efforts of the Chinese Project Team of the Singapore Lodge. They have developed a comprehensive Chinese website and conduct activities like lectures and talks using Voov meetings. A Theosophy Course was held in Chinese, alongside a Book Club accessing translated theosophical literature, recorded lectures, and subtitled videos. Two WeChat blog groups

engage members and non-member sympathizers.

In Singapore, a notable event was the opening of new premises by the International President on August 20, 2023. Malaysia hosted the 15th Indo-Pacific Conference virtually in November 2022, focusing on “Finding Joy Amidst Uncertainty”. In Japan, online study sessions via Zoom were organized bi-monthly, and several books were published in Japanese translation.

Mr Chong Sanne
Presidential Representative

BANGLADESH

Founded 2013, membership 102 (2021). No report.

Mr Subrata Chowdhury
Presidential Representative

BOLIVIA

Founded 1965, membership 68. During this year the six Branches and the Three Centres carried out a fraternal work, paying special attention to study, research, meditation and propagation. Some lodges are implementing the hybrid mode, combining online and in-person activities. Some of the Bolivian TS members delivered national and international lectures on various topics. Workshops and introductory courses to theosophy were carried out in the cities of La Paz, Cochabamba and Tarija,

to spread theosophical knowledge and increase membership. Public conferences were held on the first Sunday of the month, with the participation of all branches and study groups. Special theosophical dates such as Foundation Day, Adyar Day and White Lotus Day, were celebrated. The *Bolivian Theosophical Magazine* has been published quarterly from December 2022 onwards.

Ms María Luisa Cabrera Padilla
Presidential Representative

COLOMBIA

Founded 1937, membership 32. The headquarters building was reopened with Wi-Fi system, communication equipment, monitors, and so on, enabling study activities, both online and physically at the headquarters, by the two Lodges in Bogota. The Medellin Lodge also met weekly. The Lodge Sol del Ecuador was annexed to the Presidential Agency. There has been an effort to promote online study groups in other Colombian cities and Ecuador and join the IATF, as well as

the creation of the Node of Theosophical Diffusion; at National and IATF level. The “Brahma Vidya School” was inactive. An introductory course to Theosophy for neophyte sympathizers will be started. The group “Encounters with Krishnamurti” continued. The magazine, *Selección Teosófica (Theosophical Digest)* is published online four times per year.

Mr Armando Motta Zapata
Presidential Representative

COSTA RICA

Founded 1997, membership 60. It continued having four active Lodges. The challenge, now that members have gotten used to virtual meetings, was to encourage them to go back to in-person meetings and hybrid sessions helped. International TS festive days like Annie Besant’s Birthday, Founders’ Day, Adyar Day and White Lotus Day were observed. A three-month *Introductory Course to Theosophy* was conducted successfully

in hybrid mode with active participation. In April a seminar, “The Secret Doctrine — Path of Self-Transformation”, was conducted by Martin Leiderman, with about 30 people in attendance. Video forums and study groups also were done. Four issues of the magazine, *Sila - Revista costarricense de Teosofía*, were published.

Mrs Cecilia Calderón
Presidential Representative

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Founded 1987, membership 45. The TS in the Dominican Republic had the two lodges giving intermediate and advanced courses on Theosophy online twice a week with the introductory course in person. Weekly theosophical meetings in person were resumed in August. The premises have undergone a facelift and inaugurated in December. It will house the Lodges, study groups, and Presidential Agency office. Commemorations of

theosophical dates were done along with the Inter-American Theosophical Federation. In October the Fall Seminar on “Intuition, our Connection with the Soul” was held in person, facilitated by Drs Isaac Jauli and Enrique Reig and around 30 people took part. The OTS meets every week to perform the Healing Ritual.

Mrs Magaly Gracia de Polanco
Presidential Representative

HUNGARY

Founded 1907, membership 33. TS in Hungary held its usual 2 General Assembly meetings, one in spring, the other in the autumn of 2022. The one operating Lodge has twenty-two members and eleven are members at large. Monthly meetings with prior agenda are held. A series of bi-weekly workshops were done with “Cosmogenesis” of *The Secret Doctrine* in focus, occasionally including non-members. MA-TESZ, the Hungarian TOS organized charity collections and donated to persons in need. The virtual healing group had weekly gatherings/group meditations. Eleven public lectures

were given. White Lotus Day commemorated Madame Blavatsky. Numerous lectures are available in the YouTube video channel, “Világunk rejtett oldala” (“The Hidden Side of Our World”), with 2650 members. “A Teozófia Magyarországon” (Theosophy in Hungary) is a podcast available on YouTube. *Occult Chemistry* by C.W. Leadbeater and A. Besant, and *The Conquest of Illusion* by J.J. van der Leeuw were translated and published. Contact was established with TS in Switzerland, Slovakia, and USA.

Ms Adrienne Nagyiday
Presidential Representative

PAKISTAN

Founded 1948, membership not available. No report.

Mr Bhagwan Bharvani
Presidential Representative

PERU

Founded 1924, membership 34. The HPB lodge conducts two Zoom meetings and two in-person gatherings each month since March 2023. The Verdad lodge primarily uses Zoom for lodge meetings and public lectures, meeting

in person once a month. In Peru, the TS celebrated Foundation Day, Adyar Day, and White Lotus Day via Zoom on their respective dates.

Mr Julio Gerardo Pomar
Presidential Representative

PUERTO RICO

Founded 1925, membership 49. From October to December the TS in Puerto Rico concentrated on encouraging attendance in in-person meetings. In January, the Inter-American Theosophical Federation (IATF) offered a week’s seminar at TS Headquarters in India. In February, the IATF President visited the headquarters in Puerto Rico and public lectures were delivered by Dr Enrique Reig.

White Lotus Day was a solemn celebration. Fred Fernández, a senior member, delivered a workshop on “The Elevation of Consciousness”. In August 2023, Idarmis Rodríguez from Krotona visited and shared appreciable insights. A public lecture is given every Sunday.

Mrs Magaly Gracia de Polanco
Presidential Representative

RUSSIA

Founded 2013, membership 146 (2019). The online lecture centre continued its work. Fifty-one meetings were conducted of which nine included international speakers. The online project, “Reading H. P. Blavatsky’s articles together”, is actively being developed. Another one, “Introduction to the Philosophy of Religions” was launched. The online course “Introduction to Theosophy” was launched in November. The 12th All-Russian Theosophical Conference was held in Kemerovo in April, with the same theme as that of the International Convention held in Adyar. Weekly meetings on *The Secret Doctrine* continued. Two Saturdays a month there is a course on “Symbolism in Astrology”. The monthly meditation course “Theosophy and Life” continued. Along with TS India, the “School of Wisdom 2023” was held in July, devoted to issues of self-knowledge. The memorial days of

Blavatsky, 8 May and 12 August, are traditionally celebrated in all Russian Lodges. With the participation of International Theosophists from Brazil, Turkey, and Belarus, the Theosophical Forum was held in Smolensk in July. The 12th annual Theosophical Seminar on *The Secret Doctrine* was held in August in the village of Makarievka. In November the National Congress of The Theosophical Society in Russia on “The Nature of Thinking. Conscious Thinking” was held. The official pages are maintained in social networks: Facebook, V Kontakte (Russian analogue of FB), and Telegram. This year new accounts were created on Yandex.Zen and RuTube. Videos are posted on <youtube.com/Theosophy>. Over 200 new videos were posted during the year.

Mr Alexey Besputin
Presidential Representative

SRI LANKA

Founded 1926, membership 182 (2017). No report.

Mr D. A. L. Wanigasekera
Presidential Representative

SWITZERLAND

Founded 1910, membership 25. The Swiss Theosophical Society is working to convert the Presidential Agency to a Section. They are active online, publishing articles on the Ticino online blog/magazine: <teosofia.ch>, and on Facebook at <facebook.com/groups/teosofii>. They recently joined Twitter with 585

followers: <twitter.com/teosofia_ch>.

The free distribution of the Italian Theosophical magazine continues at the Locarno public bookshop. In Ascona, the European Theosophical Seminar on “Art and Theosophy” took place, organized by the Swiss Theosophical Society in collaboration with the European Federation

and the Italian Theosophical Society. The Swiss Theosophical Centre in Ascona hosts an active library and welcomed the President of the Hungarian Theosophical Society and three members.

The Fraternitas Lodge in Ascona regularly welcomes new members and numerous sympathizers, holding weekly meetings. The Theosophical Course in Geneva explores official Theosophical texts monthly and holds weekly meetings in French via Zoom.

The Lugano Infinite Continuous Present group meets weekly in a private venue in the city center since April 27. A new study center of the Swiss Theosophical Society was established in Zurich on May 26. The Society supported the Young Theosophist's Gathering held from June 9 to 15, 2023, in Naarden, Holland, and the Project Restoration of Adyar painting Collection.

Mr Andrea Biasca-Caroni
Presidential Representative

VENEZUELA

Founded 1953, membership 16. At present the lodges (Blavatsky and Fraternity) meet, every Sunday from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. The study books include *the Bhagavad Gita*, *Quantum Physics and Emotions* by Ana Belén López Solano, and *At the Feet of the Master*, among

others. In all the meetings of the lodges, half an hour of meditation for peace is held, according to TOS. Special theosophical dates such as Foundation Day and Adyar Day were celebrated.

Mrs Nelly Nouel
Presidential Representative

LODGES ATTACHED TO ADYAR

LOTUS LODGE (CROATIA)

Membership 12. It had meetings in Zagreb once a week. In Opatija, the translation of articles and books go on as well as

work on the website, <www.teozofija.net>.

Mr Ninoslav Volaj

Lodge Secretary

ARC-EN-CIEL AND ANANDA LODGES (FRANCE)

Membership 30. Adyar Day was celebrated by both lodges with a lecture on *Adyar, The Master's Home*. On 8 May, members of both lodges met for White Lotus Day to read extracts of Theosophical books. Both lodges have monthly

regular meetings where studies on Mabel Colins's *Light on The Path* and Annie Besant's *Study on Consciousness* are conducted.

Mr Jean Iozia and Mrs Brigitte Iozia

Lodge Presidents

COVENANT LODGE (ISRAEL)

Membership 56. This year's activities involved weekly Zoom meetings for members and lectures targeting the general public. A monthly gathering to study *The Secret Doctrine* took place. Members actively volunteered, delivering lectures to diverse audi-

ences about theosophical activities.

Approximately 40 meetings were conducted to disseminate the principles of Theosophy in the Tel Aviv area across various community centers.

Mr Abraham Oron

Lodge President

FRATERNIDAD LODGE (PARAGUAY)

Membership 18. Online meetings were conducted during this year. The Lodge's library has around 200 books on theosophical topics by different authors. It also has the support of the libraries of the members for the study or research of certain topics. The Lodge has weekly study meetings to study different theosophical books and sub-

jects such as *Daily Meditations* by Katherine A. Beechey, the seven principles of the human being, and karma, among others. The Lodge is on social media through Facebook and also has a website <sociedadteosofica.org.py>.

Sr Blas Osvaldo Añazco Lopez

Lodge President

H. P. BLAVATSKY LODGE (QATAR)

Membership 9 (2017). No report.

Ganesh Shenoy
Coordinator

BLAVATSKY LODGE (SLOVENIA)

The Lodge joined Slovenian Regional Association in March 2023.

Ms Tatjana Ruzic
Lodge General Secretary

ORLANDO LODGE (USA)

Membership 17. The Orlando Lodge resumed in-person meetings twice a month following the pandemic's conclusion that involve a participatory meditation, and the studying of *First Principles of Theosophy* by C. Jinarajadasa.

The Lodge maintains a quarterly e-

newsletter alongside monthly informational e-news distributions. The Lodge's website, <tso-orlando.org>, has received over 241,468 visitors to date, serving as a hub for information and engagement.

Mr Carl Metzger
Lodge President

**INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY
AND
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE
GENERAL COUNCIL**

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY

Date	Section	General Secretary, etc.	Address	Magazine	Email address
1947	Africa, East and Central	... Mr Narendra M. Shah	... PO Box 14525, 00800, Westlands, Nairobi, Kenya	... <i>The Theosophical Light</i>	narendrashah1999@gmail.com
1909	Africa, South	... Mr Desmond Chapman	... 31 Sreatley Ave, cnr Lothbury Ave, Auckland	... <i>The South African Theosophist</i>	tsinsa.gensec@telkomsa.net
1956	Africa, West	... Dr K. A. Tutu	... PO Box 720, Accra, Ghana	... <i>The West African Theosophist</i>	katutu@gmail.com
1929	America, Central *	... Mrs Beatriz Elisena Martinez Pozas	... Colonia Universitaria Norte, Calle Julio Mejia, Poligono, E-7 Mejicanos, San Salvador, EL SALVADOR	... <i>Teosofia en Argentina</i>	bemap003@hotmail.com
1920	Argentina	... Mr Esteban Langlois	... Pje. Florencio Balcarce 71, Buenos Aires (1405)	... <i>Teosofia en Argentina</i>	secretaria@sociedadteosofica.org.ar
1990	Asia, East and Southeast †	... Mr Chong Sanne	... 540 Sims Avenue, No. 03-04	... <i>Newsletter</i>	sanne@theosophyasia.net
1895	Australia	... Mr Stephen McDonald	... Sims Avenue Centre, Singapore 387 603	... <i>Theosophy in Australia</i>	pres@theosophicalsociety.org.au
1912	Austria *	... Mr Albert Schichl	... Level 2, 162 Goulburn St., Surry Hills, NSW 2010	... <i>Theosophie Adyar</i>	theosophie.austria@son.at
2013	Bangladesh †	... Mr Subrata Chowdhury	... Oberbaumgarten 25, 4204 Hainbach im Mühlkreis	... <i>Sophia</i>	house_advocates@yahoo.com
1911	Belgium	... Mrs Sabine Van Osta	... Urban Gardenia, Flat 5B, House 45A, Road 3A, Dhanmondi, R/A Dhaka 1209	... <i>Le Lotus Bleu</i>	info@ts-belgium.be
1965	Bolivia †	... Mrs Maria Luisa Cabrera	... Place des Gueux 8, B1000 Brussels	... <i>Revista Teosófica Boliviana</i>	mlcp2@hotmail.com
1920	Brazil	... Mr Sergio Carvalho de Moraes, Jr	... c/Valdivieso N° 541 Cochabamba	... <i>The Light Bearer</i>	secretaria@sociedadteosofica.org.br
1924	Canada *	... Mr Robert Béland	... SGAS Quadra 603, N. 20, CEP 70200-630 Brasília (DF)	... <i>Revista Teosófica Chilena</i>	president.atcta@gmail.com
1920	Chile *	... Mr Victor Aguayo	... 1120 Chemin de la Rivière, Val David, P.Q., Canada J0T 2N0	... <i>Selección Teosófica</i>	stsgamoz@gmail.com
1937	Colombia †	... Mr Armando Motta Zapata	... Casilla 11 Sucursal Paseo Estacion, Estacion Central, Santiago	... <i>Teozofija</i>	cmaycalderon@gmail.com
1997	Costa Rica †	... Mrs Cecilia Calderón	... Carrera 6, # 56-40, Bogotá (Chapinero Alto)	... <i>Teosofia</i>	teozofija@teozofija.net
2007	Croatia ▲	... Mr Darko Majstorovic	... San José, 1350, Costa Rica	... <i>Esoterica</i>	teosocuba.1@gmail.com
1905	Cuba	... Mr. Fidel Carrazana Macías	... Siget 11, 10000 Zagreb, Republic of Croatia	... <i>Teosofi</i>	polancomagaly@yahoo.com
1987	Dominican Rep. †	... Mrs Magaly Polanco	... Apartado de Correos 6365, La Habana 10600	... <i>Teosofi</i>	president@teosoc.org.uk
1888	England and Wales	... Mrs Jenny Baker	... Calle Santa Agueda 1652 Les Chalet Col	... <i>Teosofi</i>	info@teosofinenseura.fi
1907	Finland	... Mr Janne Vuononvirta	... San Juan Puerto Rico Apartado 23 00926	... <i>Le Lotus Bleu</i>	tsfr.office@gmail.com
1899	France	... Ms Maxence Ondet	... 50 Gloucester Place, London W1U 8EA	... <i>Adyar</i>	theosophie-adyar@gmx.de
1902	Germany	... Mrs Manuela Kaulich	... Teosofinen Seura, Vironkatu 7 C 2, Fin 00170, Helsinki	... <i>Ilisos</i>	info@theosophicalsociety.gr
1928	Greece	... Dr Alexandros Bousoulengas	... 4 Square Rapp, 75007 Paris	... <i>Teozofia</i>	iceland.ts@gmail.com
1907	Hungary †	... Mrs Adrienne Nagyiday	... Hauptstr. 39, 93138 Lappersdorf	... <i>The Indian Theosophist</i>	theosophyvn@gmail.com
1921	Iceland	... Mr Haraldur Erlendsson	... 25 Voukourestiou St., 106 71-Athens	... <i>Teosofi</i>	indonesia.teosofi@gmail.com
1891	India	... Mr Pradeep H. Gohil	... H-1085 Budapest, Horánszky u. 27. fsz. 10	... <i>Teosofi</i>	marieharkness@yahoo.co.uk
1912	Indonesia	... Mr Widyatmoko Nekara	... PO Box 1257 Ingolfstraeti 22, 121 Reykjavik	... <i>Teosofi</i>	
1919	Ireland *	... Mrs Marie Harkness	... The Theosophical Society, Kamachha, Varanasi 221 010	... <i>Teosofi</i>	

1954	Israel ▲	...	Mrs Bracha Elron	...	PO Box 9114, Ramat-Gan, Israel 5219002	...	<i>Or</i>	elronb1@gmail.com
1902	Italy	...	Mr Antonio Girardi	...	Viale Quintino Sella, 83/E, 36100 Vicenza	...	<i>Rivista Italiana di Teosofia</i>	sti@teosofica.org
1997	Ivory Coast *	...	Mr Pierre-Magloire Kouahoh	...	Yopougon, 23 Rue Princesse B. P. 3924, Abidjan 23	...	<i>Sophia</i>	pm_kouahoh@hotmail.com
1919	Mexico	...	Mrs Juana Leonor Maldonado Ruiz	...	Ignacio Mariscal 126, Col. Tabacalera Mexico, Mexico, D.F. 06030	...		teosofiamexico@gmail.com
1897	Netherlands, The	...	Mr Wim Leys	...	Tolsraat 154, 1074 YM Amsterdam	...	<i>Teosofia</i>	info@societadteosofica.mx
1896	New Zealand	...	Mr John Vorstermans	...	18, Belvedere Street, Epsom, Auckland 1051	...	<i>Theosophia</i>	info@theosofic.nl
1913	Norway *	...	Mr Audun Solberg	...	Knapstadveien 8, 1823 Knapstad	...		np@theosophy.org.nz
1935	Orlando ▲	...	Mr Carl Metzger	...	1606 New York Ave, Orlando, Florida, 32803-1838, USA	...		organisasjonsekretar@teosofisksamfunn.no
1948	Pakistan †	...	...	...	Jamshed Memorial Hall, M. A. Jinnah Road, opp. Radio Pakistan, Karachi 74200	...	<i>The Karachi Theosophist</i>	Theosophical Society CF@gmail.com
1925	Paraguay ▲	...	Mr Blas Osvaldo Añazco López	...	Eligio Ayala Nro. 1.833 e/ Mayor Fleitas y Gral. Aquino Asunción	...		bhagwanbharvani@hotmail.com
1924	Peru †	...	Mr Julio Pomar Calderón	...	Av Republica de Portugal 152, Breña, Lima 5	...	<i>Bisqueda</i>	ramafaternidadSTparaguay@hotmail.com
1933	Philippines, The	...	Mr Charlton Romero	...	Corner P. Florentino and Iba Streets, Quezon City, Manila	...	<i>The Philippine Theosophist</i>	sede-central@societadteosoficaenperu.pe
1921	Portugal	...	Mr Carlos Guerra	...	Sociedade Teosófica de Portugal, Rua José Estêvão, 10 B, 1150-202 Lisboa	...	<i>Ostris</i>	philtheos@gmail.com
1925	Puerto Rico †	...	Mrs Magaly Polanco	...	Apartado 36-1766 Correo General, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936-1766	...	<i>Heraldo Teosófico</i>	geral@societadteosoficadeportugal.pt
2012	Qatar ▲	...	Mr Lijo Joseph	...	Crewing Officer, Teyseer Services Company P.O. Box 2431, Doha	...		polancomagaly@yahoo.com
2013	Russia †	...	Mr Alexey Besputin	...	159-52, Novomytischinsky prospekt, Mytischki, Moscow region, 141018	...	<i>Teosoficheskoe Obozrenie</i> (The Theosophical Review)	qatarblavatskylodge@yahoo.com
1910	Scotland *	...	Mr Gary Kidgell	...	Christine Gear 32 Newmans Road Kirkliston Edinburgh EH29 9AL	...	<i>Circles</i>	pr@ts-russia.org
1992	Slovenia *	...	Mrs Irena Primc	...	Kajuhova Ul 9, 3000 Celje	...	<i>Teosofska Misel</i>	garykidgell@hotmail.com
1921	Spain	...	Mrs Angels Torra Buron	...	Av. Vall d'or, 85-87 08197 - Valldoreix (Spain)	...	<i>Sophia</i>	irenaprinc3@gmail.com
1926	Sri Lanka †	...	Mr D. A. L. Wanigasekera	...	146 Anderson Rd, Dehiwala, Karla Plan 5 B, 11460 Stockholm	...	<i>The Sri Lanka Theosophist</i>	presidencia@societadteosofica.es
1895	Sweden	...	Mrs Birgitta Skarbo	...	Via Collina 19, 6612 Ascona, CH-6612	...	<i>Tidlös Visdom</i>	dumindawanigasekera@gmail.com
1910	Switzerland †	...	Mr Andreea Biasca-Caroni	...	S.O., A.R.T.T., BP 76, Adeta	...	<i>The Lotus</i>	teosofiskasamfundet.adyar@telia.com
1997	Togo *	...	Mr Kouma Dakey	...	Office 3, 7-A Zhyljansk St., Kiev 01033	...		info@teosofia.ch
2013	Ukraine	...	Mrs Svitlana Gavrylenko	...	PO Box 270, Wheaton, IL 60187-0270	...	<i>Svitoch</i>	org@theosophy.in.ua
1886	USA	...	Dr Barbara B. Hebert	...	Javier Barrios Amorin 1085, Casilla de Correos 1553, Montevideo	...	<i>The Quest</i>	info@theosophical.org
1925	Uruguay *	...	Mrs Enna Ma. de Souza Leal	...	Romualda a Socarrás, Edif. de Oro Piso 12, Apto. 122 – Caracas	...		st.uruguay@gmail.com
1925	Venezuela †	...	Mrs Nelly Nouel	...	...	...		nellynouel5@gmail.com

Date refers to the date of formation

* Regional Association

† Presidential Agency

▲ Lodge attached to Adyar

The Council of the European Federation of National Societies: *Chairperson*: Miss Trán-Thi-Kim-Diêu, 67 Rue des Pommiers, F-45000 Orleans, France. trankindieu@msn.com
Inter-American Theosophical Federation: *President*: Mr Enrique Reg. And. Nte 17 Villa Las Americas, San Andres, Cholulla, Puebla, Mexico. [enriqueig@hotmail.com](mailto:enrique@enriqueig@hotmail.com), fli.secretaria2021@gmail.com
Indo-Pacific Theosophical Federation: *President*: Mr Gerard Brennan, 42 Melbourne Street, Concord, 2137, Sydney, Australia. president@ipf-ts.org
Pan-African Theosophical Federation: *Chairman*: Mr Navin B. Shah, P.O. Box 14804, 00800, Nairobi, Kenya. navinmeera@hotmail.com, Phone no.: +254 733-935525.

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL

Mr Vicente Hao Chin Jr., No. 143, Maria Clara Street, Talayam, Quezon City, The Philippines (for 2019, 2020 and 2021)

Ms Tran-Thi-Kim-Dieu, No. 4, Square Rapp, 75007 Paris, France (for 2019, 2020 and 2021)

Mrs Patrizia Moschin Calvi, Viale Quintino Sella, 83/E, 36100, Vicenza, Italy (for 2021, 2022 and 2023)

Mr Vinayak Pandya, 24/D Jeevan Parag, 127, Prabhat Colony Road No. 2, Santacruz (East), Mumbai-400 055, India (for 2021, 2022 and 2023)

Mr Marcos de Resende, SGAS Quadra 603, N. 20, CEP 70200-630, Brasilia (DF), Brazil (for 2021, 2022 and 2023)

Prof. C. A. Shinde, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Chennai 600 020, India (for 2021, 2022 and 2023)

MINUTES

Theosophical Society General Council Meeting on 30 December 2023 at Adyar,
Conference Hall and via Zoom meeting from 8:30 am IST

P R E S E N T

Mr Tim Boyd	<i>President</i>
Mrs Deepa Padhi	<i>Vice-President</i>
Ms Marja Artamaa	<i>Secretary</i>
Ms Nancy Secrest	<i>Treasurer</i>
Mrs Linda Oliveira	<i>Additional Member</i>
Ms Trăn-Thi-Kim-Diêu	<i>Additional Member; proxy from GS France, ZOOM</i>
Mr Vicente Hao Chin, Jr	<i>Additional Member; after break, ZOOM</i>
Mrs Patrizia Moschin Calvi	<i>Additional Member; proxy from GS Italy</i>
Mr Marcos de Resende	<i>Additional Member</i>
Mr Vinayak Pandya	<i>Additional Member</i>
Prof. C. A. Shinde	<i>Additional Member</i>
Mr Narendra Shah	<i>General Secretary, Africa East and Central</i>
Mr Stephen McDonald	<i>General Secretary, Australia; proxy from Linda Oliveira</i>
Mr Otavio Ernesto Marchesini	<i>General Secretary, Brazil</i>
Ms Trăn-Thi-Kim-Diêu	<i>General Secretary, France</i>
Mrs Manuela Kaulich	<i>General Secretary, Germany</i>
Mr Pradeep Gohil	<i>General Secretary, India</i>
Mr Richard Sell	<i>General Secretary; New Zealand; proxy from GS Netherlands</i>
Mr Charlton Romero	<i>General Secretary, Philippines</i>
Mr Douglas Keene	<i>General Secretary, USA</i>

Present via Zoom:

Mr Vicente Hao Chin, Jr	<i>Additional Member; ZOOM</i>
Mrs Jenny Baker	<i>General Secretary, England, ZOOM</i>
Mr Alexandros Bousoulengas	<i>General Secretary, Greece, ZOOM</i>
Mrs Angeles Torra-Buron	<i>General Secretary, Spain, ZOOM</i>
Mrs Svitlana Gavrylenko	<i>General Secretary, Ukraine, ZOOM</i>

Absent with proxies:

Mrs Linda Oliveira, Australia	<i>Additional Member > proxy to Stephen McDonald</i>
Mr Antonio Girardi	<i>General Secretary, Italy > proxy to Patrizia Calvi</i>
Mr Wim Leys	<i>General Secretary, Netherlands > proxy to Richard Sell</i>

Absent:

Mr Desmond Chapman	<i>General Secretary, Africa, South</i>
Mr K. A. Tutu	<i>General Secretary, Africa, West</i>
Mr Leandro Cesano	<i>General Secretary, Argentina</i>
Mrs Sabine van Osta	<i>General Secretary, Belgium</i>

Mr Fidel Carrazana Macias	<i>General Secretary, Cuba</i>
Mr Jean-Paul Silvan	<i>General Secretary, Finland</i>
Mr Haraldur Erlendsson	<i>General Secretary, Iceland</i>
Mr Widyatmoko	<i>General Secretary, Indonesia</i>
Mrs Juana Leonor Maldonado Ruíz	<i>General Secretary, Mexico</i>
Mr Carlos Guerra	<i>General Secretary, Portugal</i>
Mrs Birgitta Skargo	<i>General Secretary, Sweden</i>

Observers:

Isis de Resende	<i>Brazil</i>
Ms Krista Umbjarv	<i>France</i>
Mr Ingmar de Boer	<i>Netherlands</i>

The President welcomed those present and those via Zoom.
Roll-calls were made from those who joined via Zoom.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 17 June 2023 at ITC Naarden were approved with the following corrections.

Item 6, 1st paragraph last sentence to read: The Thought Forms of Annie Besant that were in the possession of the Indian Section at Varanasi were sent by them to Adyar.

Item 3, last paragraph: 20% was corrected to be 2%. The sentence to read: In India, corporations have to donate 2% of the net surplus to some social target to NGOs that have CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) code.

2. Matters arising out of the Minutes

About the Thought Forms.

In 2015 the Istanbul Biennial had its title “Saltwater: A Theory of Thought Forms”, and because of this the Curator reached out to TS Adyar for the paintings. We tried to find them but could not. Then the President was invited to run a workshop in Varanasi. There was an attendee from Australia who at one point said that the Thought Forms were hanging in the Library. They were taken down. Those paintings looked the same as the ones in the book *Thought Forms* but it was not sure if they were those actual paintings. Specific testing will be done with scientific methods to find out the age of the paper of the paintings in the first place.

3. Voting and confirmation of the Election of Additional Members.

The President had nominated the following as additional members to the GC under Rule 2 of the Rules and Regulations for years 2024, 2025, and 2026. The voting results are:

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

Mrs Patrizia Calvi	29 votes in favour, 0 against
Mr Vinayak Pandya	30 votes in favour, 0 against
Mr Marcos de Resende	30 votes in favour, 0 against
Prof. C. A. Shinde	30 votes in favour, 0 against
Mr Arend Heijbroek	30 votes in favour, 0 against

The President declared all five unanimously elected as Additional Members of the General Council for 2024, 2025, and 2026.

4. Report on the Non-English Publications Fund (NEPF)

The NEPF account held by the Theosophical Investment Trust under TS in America for TS Adyar was \$84,756. In 2023 no grants were asked for or given.

NEPF Committee members were re-appointed for the next three years, 2024-2026. They are Tim Boyd, Nancy Secrest, Marja Artamaa, and Trăn-Thi-Kim-Diêu.

5. Report on the International Funds

The status of International Funds as of 31 March 2023 are:

International Funds in USA

ABC Fund balance	\$1,028,396
Adyar Renovation Fund	\$15,128

International Funds in Australia

ABC Fund	A\$73,357
Security Fund	A\$6,869

International Funds in the Netherlands

Adyar Renovation Fund	€45,658
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6. Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023

The Treasurer presented in detail the Treasurer's Report and Audited Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023. The GC members thanked the Treasurer for the incredible work.

The Treasurer's Report and Accounts were approved unanimously.

7. The Budget for the year ending 31 March 2025

The Treasurer presented the Budget in detail.

GC unanimously approved the Budget for the year ending 31 March 2025.

8. Appointment of Auditors for the year ending 31 March 2025

M/s Srihari & Co. were re-appointed as Auditors for the year ending 31 March 2025 on the same terms as before.

9. Voting and confirmation of the election of the Treasurer for three years (2024–2026).

The President's nomination and Executive Committee's approval of Ms Nancy Secrest for the International Treasurer for the years of 2024-2026, was unanimously confirmed.

10. Appointment of Executive Committee (EC)

The President nominated the same EC members for the Executive Committee for 2024.

All were in favor, none against.

The following were appointed as Executive Committee members for 2024:

Mr Tim Boyd	President (ex-officio)
Dr Deepa Padhi	Vice-President (ex-officio)
Ms Nancy Secrest	Treasurer (ex-officio)
Ms Marja Artamaa	Secretary (ex-officio)
Mr Pradeep Gohil	General Council Member
Prof. C. A. Shinde	General Council Member
Mrs Jenny Baker	General Council Member
Mr Jaikumar Kannan	Member
Mr A. L. Somayaji	Member

11. Report by the President on the Headquarters

Mr Somayaji

The President invited and introduced Mr Somayaji, a member of the TS and Executive Committee, who is one of the top Lawyers in Tamil Nadu, an Advocate General, and a Senior Special Counsel for the State of India. He is also disposed for acting on behalf of the TS on the legal affairs.

Mr Somayaji thanked being invited to meet all GC members. He explained the procedure with the issue of the 82 acres of our land in the middle of the TS campus which have been claimed to be owned by other parties. This parcel of land was purchased by two TS members, namely Mr Ranga Reddy and Mr Subbaya Chetty, on 15 February 1908 with the amount of 30,000 rupees. It was sold by the Prince of Arcot. On the same day, Mr Reddy and Mr Chetty, executed an agreement saying

that this property was purchased with the money that Annie Besant gave for it, Rs.30,000, and that Theosophical Society is the owner and nobody can claim the property. This paper was registered.

In 2012 some of the children or relatives of Prince Arcot made a claim for the property and wanted information from the Information Commission as to whom this property belonged. The answer was that the property stands in the name of the Theosophical Society.

In 2017 another set of people came to say that the land belongs to Prince Arcot's legal heirs, and that the revenue records should be changed.

In 2019 a third group came who went to the highest person in the Revenue Department who passed on an order that the revenue records had been lost so they must be changed to the children of Arcot. TS placed this to the High Court which asked for all the documents from both sides. We showed our proven documents. The order was dismissed by the High Court.

The High Court said that we can agitate the question. As our title is clear we are only agitating the question if notice is received by authority. And if it comes, we will go tell them 1) that we have got a good title, 2) you have no business to go with this case, because there is no order against the TS. The only order was dismissed by the High Court.

A good discussion followed in the GC indicating some differences in the countries, but the description above tells our stand at the moment. Somayaji assured us. We need not worry. There is nothing against us.

Mr Somayaji was grateful for listening to him and said that it was a pleasure to meet brothers and sisters.

Three young residents

The President introduced the young resident members at Adyar: Mr Shikhar Agnihotri, Mrs Catalina Isaza-Cantor, and Mr Vighnesh Ramachandran. Vighnesh is working in the Treasury Office. Catalina originally worked at the ATA school and is now working in the Secretary's Office and for the School of the Wisdom. Shikhar works in the General Manager's Office as an Executive Assistant and is also the Convention Officer for the second year. Catalina and Shikhar are a couple. Catalina came from Colombia, and Shikhar from Hyderabad.

Vighnesh said that in addition to working in the Treasury, he has also an interest in Animal Dispensary and the work of Adyar Nature and Environment. He has focus in the coming years on ecology and conservation taking the lead in terms of steps that deal with climate changes and other important environmental matters.

Catalina and Shikhar were married in Adyar in Bharata Samaj Temple soon after she came to Adyar. She told how things came to their life including daughter

Yuna. Then she said that she was a teacher in Colombia at a university, but here she came to teach 2–4 years old children, which was quite an enriching phase, before she started in the Secretary's Office. The work in the team of the World Federation of Young Theosophists is also close to her heart and activities. She is grateful for all the support that they have got from everyone around and far.

Shikhar said that when we are open to life things happen. Everything is fine, enriching and uplifting. He is grateful to be part of this important project to keep this place safe. We not only cherish what we receive but also keep it protected and safe for the future. He is happy and grateful to work with all that is happening in the campus and happy to meet all with this setup.

The President mentioned that two other young members have come as long-term volunteers to Adyar: Sara Ortega van Vloten from Spain and Elena Bessie Camplone from Italy.

Other works

The President mentioned more things that are taking place simultaneously.

- BMAD, Animal Dispensary, has grown extensively.
- All the educational schools and programs are the ways we are trying to apply Theosophy.
- We have half of the campus which will be for useful use in a participatory manner for environmental educational purposes.
- Art conservation project for our art collection is going on. It has brought people in touch globally.

12. Damodar Gardens

The TS received the Transferable Development Rights (TDR) because the local government widened the road leading to Damodar Gardens. TS can sell the TDR to developers by getting about the market value of 1.3 acres. Developer discussions are going on.

13. Discussion on work around the world

This item was to be taken after item 14 (Proposal for change to Rules), but after handling that item there was no time to go into this discussion.

Proposal for a change to the International Rules and Regulations

The General Council members discussed and approved the following changes to the Memorandum of Association.

Page 1: After the 2.III Object and before the items a, the following line was added.

In furtherance of these objects:

Page 2: Item (e) was added with the following content

(e) To establish, own, manage, promote, and run educational institutions like colleges, schools, libraries, learning centres, and student hostels; as well as animal care centres; and environmental and artistic preservation, promotion and development.

The amendments to the International Rules and Regulations were unanimously approved by 26 GC members with proxies.

14. Any other business

A Committee to review the International Rules was formed by Chally Romero as the coordinator, Marcos de Resende, Trăn-Thi-Kim-Diêu, Richard Sell, and Narendra Shah.

15. Next dates

The next meeting is the strategic planning days at ITC Naarden, the Netherlands, from 5 to 10 July, of which the 5th is the arrival day and the 10th is the departure day. On Saturday 6th July will be the GC meeting.

16. Closing of the meeting

The President appreciated and thanked everyone for the good meeting.

The meeting was closed at 5:00 pm India time.

Marja Artamaa
International Secretary,
TS Adyar, Chennai 600 020